IKIGAI

A LIFE WORTH LIVING

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Land Acknowledgment

Northwest Folklife operates on the ceded and unceded, ancestral land of the Coast Salish Peoples, specifically the first people of Seattle, the Muckleshoot, Suquamish, and other Salish Peoples whose Duwamish ancestors were the original stewards of the land, and who carry on that stewardship today. We honor with gratitude the land itself and these descendants of the Duwamish people. This acknowledgment only becomes meaningful when combined with accountable relationships and informed actions. This is a first step in honoring the people and the land we are on.

To acknowledge this land is to recognize the history of physical and cultural genocide and settler colonialism, which continues to displace Indigenous people all around the world. It is to also recognize these lands and waters, and their significance for the resilient and wise peoples who continue to thrive in these global regions despite the consequences of displacement and broken treaties.

In Memoriam

Folklife is simultaneously constant and ever-changing. We see life come and go in an ongoing exchange of joy, grief, celebration, and mourning. Loss of friends, family, and those we aspire to follow is a difficult and inevitable part of the constancy of change. Keeping memories and accomplishments alive in story, song, and artistic expression is a way to honor and perpetuate their contributions, toil, and inspiration.

While people observe death in different ways, in most instances, people from all over the world honor their loved ones in the community. Our collective folklife commemorates death through the storytelling exercises of ceremony, prayer, practice, and performance. We create customs that give us a communal opportunity to heal, repair, and embody the spirit of those whom we have loved and shared life with.

Together, let us recognize those who have become ancestors and guides for our continuing journey at the Folklife Remembers Memorial Wall on the 3rd floor Mezzanine in the Armory Court. It is our privilege to remember these people who have woven their lives into the story of Northwest Folklife and the history of our greater community to create the beautiful tapestry that is the Pacific Northwest. We remain connected through these experiences. We continue to build solidarity, compassion, and a place for the future to unfold through the sharing of stories, traditions, and legacies.

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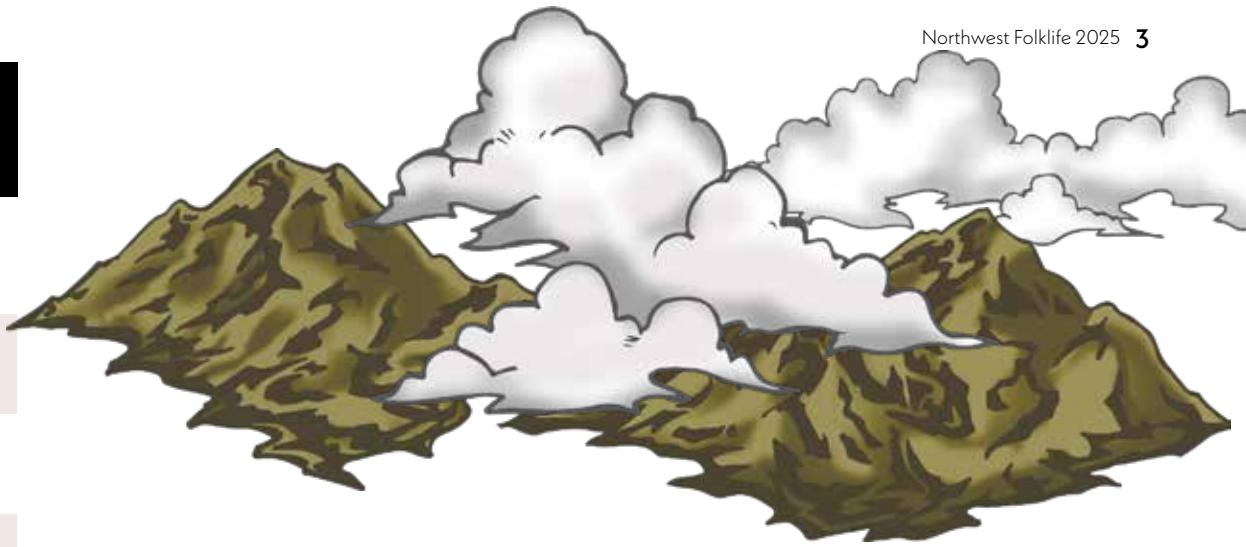

Words of Welcome

At this moment, we are living through a time of profound social and cultural change—shifts that are affecting the lives of individuals, families, and communities across the country and the globe. These changes can be overwhelming, disorienting, and at times, deeply painful.

And yet...

Within this landscape, a powerful and enduring truth remains: that communities rooted in care, connection, and creativity are not only surviving—but thriving. Northwest Folklife exists as a celebration of that truth.

This year's Cultural Focus, Ikigai (生きがい), emanates from the combination of Japanese terms iki ("alive" or "life") and gai ("worth" or "value") forming a concept that invites a deep, sustained reflection upon our reason for being, individually and collectively. Whether in moments of upheaval, transition, stasis, or peace the persistent quest to effect a life worth living, and a world worth living in, is at the very heart of folklife.

Showing up as who you are is a risk - expressions of identity, culture, and heritage are not to be taken for granted. Northwest Folklife remains committed to holding space where everyone is not just welcome, but honored, seen, and valued for their humanness.

At its core, folklife is a declaration of love. Love for the art of creating, love for the world around us, and love for one another. This love is not a monolith: it's multi-faceted and evolving; it's forgiving and demanding; it's spontaneous and constant. It is this mutability where we ultimately find the value of being alive, find hope, gather the courage to do better and the will be better, and find the path to liberation.

We come together to joyfully reject divisiveness, create a sense of belonging and wonder, and celebrate all that makes life worth living - humanity, artistry, diverse perspectives, shared appreciation, acceptance, and love.

> Love is a seed blossoming into a song, a dance, a life story, and a healing embrace
> Love is a hard edge that forges the path forward and a quiet cheer for the first step
> Love is a champion, a challenger, a protector, and a conscience
> Love is what makes life worth living

Most importantly, Love is our Welcome to you. We welcome you. All of you. We are so grateful you are here with us today.

Benjamin Hunter
Artistic Director

Reese Tanimura
Managing Director

Michelle Demers Shaevitz
Board President

Board of Directors

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Festival Production Lead: **Anne O'Dowd**

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Graphic Designer: **Jacqueline Marzan**

Poster Artists: **King Khazm** & **Toka Valu**

Festival Guide Design & Production: **Erica Tarrant** & **Mary Traverse**

Festival Highlights

Fountain Lawn Pub & Jam Hub: This year, the Fountain Lawn has been transformed into a GIANT Jam Tent and all-ages beer garden. This space is perfect for a hang, music with friends, and family fun. You will find vendor and maker booths, lawn and board games, and space to bring back your tasty selections from our 50 food vendors and enjoy an array of beverages.

Fisher Green Global Roots Village & Lawn Pub: In addition to hosting the historic Fisher Green stage, the lawn will be surrounded by artisan/crafter booths and food vendors. Families will find plenty of activities for all ages and offer beverages to suit as well!

Updated Festival Hours: This year, the festival will start a little later on Friday, at 4 PM. Additionally, the Fisher Pavilion will be open for an extra hour on Friday and Saturday for late-night contra dance sets.

Community Quilt: For the second year in a row, we will be collecting Quilt Squares from the community, to be sewn into a community quilt. Quilt Blocks are displayed at the A/NT Gallery!

Folklife Gallery Walk: Continuing on last year's expanded scope for visual arts at Folklife. You can find them at McCaw Hall, 3rd Floor of Armory Mezzanine, The Vera Project, and A/NT.

Friends of Folklife Stage: Join us at our newest stage, Friends of Folklife, on the Fisher Terrace! This stage is adjacent to our Friends of Folklife Lounge, but still accessible to the general public. It will feature a mix of legacy and up-and-coming performers.

The Rotunda Folklife Café: Returning for a second year, enjoy intimate performances in the southern wing of the Seattle Repertory Theater. Stop by the concession stand for a snack or beverage while you are there and support the Rep!

Makers Space: This space allows participants to have hands-on experiences with the craft of "making" in various disciplines. Featured with the Artists at Play Stage, enjoy music, participatory arts, and a huge playground! See page 24 for more details.

Mobile App: Keep up with NW Folklife throughout the festival and ALL YEAR ROUND! Download the Northwest Folklife mobile app by scanning the QR code to follow the festival schedule and get more info on each of our performers, vendors, partners, and sponsors. Make sure you check back to find out about 'Our Big Neighborhood' programs and events that we host around the region throughout the year.

Kuleana Corridor: Kuleana Corridor continues NW Folklife's exploration of the Folk vocation, bringing the people, communities, organizations, and cooperatives who are actively engaging in systems that promote biodiversity, support sustainable & healthy food production, imagine safe and healthy communities, and give strength to the cause of food sovereignty, environmental sustainability, and ecological preservation. See pages 24 for more details.

Threads of the People Fashion Expo (new location): Threads of the People will return for a third year, with a new location in the Seattle Center Armory. Stop by for cultural dress presentations, dance performances and runway shows on the stage, and a vendor market featuring local artisans! See page 24 for more details.

Busking Zones: This year we've partnered with Buskarama - a community organization dedicated to uplifting the art of busking - to create and program several busking zones located near main festival entrances. Stop by each zone for a list of performers for that day.

Workshops: Dance Workshops will be located inside The Vera Project and other workshops will be located in SIFF Cinema near the KEXP Gathering Space and Alki Court Stage.

Reusable Cups Program (Lawn Pubs & Hospitality): This will be our third year partnering with Bold Reuse to keep more single-use cups out of the waste stream. We can significantly lower the environmental impact of our festival by using cups made from more durable materials, collecting them back for sanitization in a high-efficiency commercial washing facility and reusing them, not only at our festival, but at events and venues all over the country. Please help us make this a success by returning drinkware items to the proper receptacles in the Beer Gardens and Participant Hospitality areas.

Virtual Livestream: Folklife will have a Livestream available on our website, including interviews, performances, and curated Listening Parties from materials in our Public Archive. Virtual programming is part of our commitment to accessibility and our strategy to create content that lives on our online archive to connect people to the artists they love.

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toyota.com/beyondzero

Hybrid EV Plug-in Hybrid EV Fuel Cell EV Battery EV

BEYOND ZERO

Tacoma TRD Pro Hybrid EV, RAV4 SE Plug-in Hybrid EV, Mirai Limited Fuel Cell EV and bZ4X Limited Battery EV shown. For more information on how Toyota's electrified lineup is providing customers with more choices to reduce their carbon emissions and move toward a carbon neutral future, see toyota.com/beyondzero.

Cultural Focus: Ikigai

Ikigai

What makes a life worth living?

As we make our way through the world, there is often a divide between all the things we think we must do and what actually nourishes our growth and allows us to thrive. Reaching for our dreams can simultaneously invigorate us and fuel a work ethic that leads to exhaustion. Exploring the infinite possibilities of the world sparks wonder but can also overwhelm and distract us. The challenges we encounter may frustrate and confuse us even as seeking solutions leaves us enlightened.

When everything around us seems to demand more — more of our attention, more of our energy and resources, more of our conviction, and more of our collective resistance — are we courageous enough to find purpose and joy in the everyday, often-overlooked moments? Whether through family, community, nature, or even a daily routine like tending to the garden, walking the dog, or cooking for friends, Ikigai is a reminder to be present and ready to embrace what truly makes a life worth living.

Ikigai surpasses the Western trope of purpose represented as a Venn diagram. The term 生き甲斐 itself is comprised of two substantive concepts – iki (alive or life) and gai (worth or value) can translate to "a reason for being" or "a reason to wake up in the morning."

It's not just a match to a career or a singular goal; rather, it's an integrated and holistic approach to life, encapsulating what brings joy, fulfillment, and purpose. Instead of a solitary, grand ambition Ikigai is about balancing all the aspects of one's life—relationships, work, personal growth, hobbies, and contributions to society—in a way that feels satisfying and meaningful.

Evolution Through the Seasons of Life

Across cultures, there's a deep appreciation for the cyclical nature of life. In Japan, this is reflected in the concept of mono no aware (物の哀れ), or the beauty in the transience of things. Ikigai acknowledges that one's purpose may evolve throughout life, adapting to various stages – youth, adulthood, aging – and finding meaning in each. This echoes our 2022 theme which emerged as we re-engaged in more analog interactions. Metamorphosis was not simply about accepting change but embracing it and using it as a catalyst to move forward.

Over the last few years, Northwest Folklife has invested a lot of time and energy into digitizing archival assets and making them accessible on our website. These archives are more than just a repository of videos, recordings, and photographs, they serve as a dynamic, living time capsule that allows us to communicate across generations of the past, present, and future. They exist as curriculum, offering all the opportunity to learn, critique, and advance ethnographic study, honoring local representations of cultural communities around the world. They present us with an illustration of humanity, give us perspective, and remind us of the magnificent (and necessary) diversity that exists amongst us as people – as folk.

Northwest Folklife's Public Archive is extensive and beautifully showcases the rich tapestry of cultures that are woven into the foundation of our region. It pays tribute to the multitudes of people who embody the spirit of Ikigai and help their communities to find a sense of belonging and a reason for being.

Balance of Self and Community

A key aspect of Ikigai is the harmony between self-fulfillment and contributing to the well-being of others. While the concept is deeply personal it isn't solely about personal happiness – Ikigai is just as much about how one's actions impact family, friends, and society. The concept of wa (和), or harmony, is intricately linked to ikigai, emphasizing the importance of balancing individual desires with the collective good.

As we witness isolation, disenfranchisement, and division being cultivated and weaponized, it is imperative that we actively seek out and build up social environments that are a vessel for conversation, consideration, empathy and healing. Revisiting our 2023 Cultural Focus, Lagom, the fluid nature of "balance" is woven throughout expressions of the human experience. When engineered inequality and discord set us adrift on shifting and diverging currents, reaching for each other's humanity helps us to restore a sense of balance.

The art of gathering people together is to see and be seen in our humanness. The annual festival is a massive undertaking and the challenges that arise in its production get more plentiful each year. And yet, the scale of the Northwest Folklife Festival underpins its ability to forge connections and demonstrates the fortitude of our "collective good." In warmly greeting one another, in singing together in Cornish Courtyard or on Fisher Green, in clapping and cheering effusively for all levels and walks of practitioners, and in the effort we make to show up and be present is where we build the foundations of a life worth living.

Passion, Purpose, and Creativity

Last year's Cultural Focus, Meraki, truly illuminated the passion and purpose manifested by artists and culture bearers. We have seen social movements march forward on songs calling for justice. We know that enslaved peoples found escape from bondage encoded in field hollers and stories. Hundreds of years of lineage have been sewn into the patterns on baskets, headwear, and blankets. These folk, our fellow humans, create experiences that console us, tap into our memory and nostalgia, unlock grief and joy, and inspire us to find our own reason for being.

One of the most repeated sentiments we hear about the Northwest Folklife Festival is that you can show up without a plan or agenda and find immense fulfillment in the experience. The sheer number of stages and activities, tastes, smells, sounds, voices and stories offer the opportunity to wander from place to place, simply remaining open to what might speak to your heart, pique your curiosity, or spark your imagination. And it's not a solitary practice because you find yourself amongst both intimate and enormous groups of other folk who are there with similar intention and purpose.

Immersed in this setting, our senses shift from individual ambitions to communal ones, deepening our relationships with the people and communities around us–our societal networks; our neighbors and acquaintances; our family and friends. We begin to divine the reciprocal nature of purpose – an interdependence between our individual and collective well-being. We begin to understand what makes a life worth living.

Donate to the Future of Folklife

Get the Northwest Folklife App!

Check Out the Northwest Folklife Website

Our Big Neighborhood (OBN) + Calendar

Our Big Neighborhood is about connecting. Connecting to those we know, and, more importantly, to those we don't. What if our world was more curious about each other? What if learning something new was exciting because it connected us to something bigger? Allowing us to open our minds and our hearts to new experiences, new tastes, sounds, and stories. Our world is big and technology helps it get smaller by the minute. While that can sometimes be scary and often uncomfortable, Our Big Neighborhood urges us to embrace the wealth of possibility, rather than shrink into the misfortunes of fear.

Through partnerships with businesses, community organizations, and everyday folx throughout the Pacific Northwest, Our Big Neighborhood reveals the ways that folklife happens every day–in the customs, conventions, and practices that we live out actively and subconsciously, through interactions planned and spontaneous.

RECURRING

Folklife Sessions at Metier Brewing

First Thursday of Every Month
6-8 PM

We're excited to announce that Folklife, Metier Brewing, and KNKX are back for year three of the Folklife Sessions at Metier Brewing Company! Join us every first Thursday of the month from 7-9pm at Metier Brewing Company's Cherry Street location for live music, celebrating the incredible talent and artistry of Washington State.

With this new year comes exciting new programming, including artist residencies running in three month periods at Metier Brewing Company. Our mission is to help reclaim the dynamism of Folk as a way of life for people of all backgrounds, heritages, and traditions, not merely a stigmatized musical genre

Open Spaces on Vashon Island

Quarterly Friday showcase
July 11th, September 19th, December 19th, March 20th

Open Spaces teams up with Northwest Folklife to present Folklife Fridays, a quarterly showcase featuring music and performances from around the world. Curated in tandem with the changing of the seasons, this showcase goes from continent to continent, exploring the rhythm of nature and the necessity of transformation

ACT Theater

Opening Nights at the Theater
25/26 Season TBD

This partnership between ACT Theater and Northwest Folklife showcases the importance of arts ecosystem collaboration. This series offers pre-show performances in the lobby of ACT Theater before each performance. Folklife carefully curates the musical acts based on the themes, characters, and storyline of the theater shows. Be sure to check out the shows when they're released!

Live at The Eleanor in Tacoma

Friday & Saturday nights

A new series at Tacoma Armory in partnership with Tacoma Arts Live and Northwest Folklife, offering an intimate, candlelit lounge experience with performances across genres—from music to poetry to dance—accompanied by craft beverages and light concessions. Every Friday and Saturday evening in the historic Eleanor Room.

Family Concert Series at Town Hall Seattle

Bi-Monthly, Saturday
10:30 AM-12 PM

Northwest Folklife is proud to partner with Town Hall Seattle this season to curate a series of Saturday Family Concert events that combine music, dance, and visual art to showcase the diverse cultures here in Seattle and the Pacific Northwest. The Concert Series offers a special opportunity for young people and families to interact with culture, not just be witness to it!

The 2025/2026 Season's theme focuses on Art as Empowerment, exploring how protest music is a form of liberation, emancipation, and validation of identity. The 8-part series brings awareness to issues that affect everyone at any age and encourages and enables young people and families to explore their heritage—past, present, and future—as a source for individual and collective identity.

SUMMER 2025

Summer at SAM

Every Sunday, July 13th - Aug 10th
12-1pm

Northwest Folklife is partnering with the Seattle Art Museum to bring a season of music, art, and community to the Olympic Sculpture Park. As part of Summer at SAM, we're curating performances and hands-on activities that celebrate the cultural vibrancy of the Pacific Northwest. From live music and dance to interactive art-making, these free, all-ages events invite everyone to gather, create, and experience the joy of summer together.

United Communities of Laos 2025 Summer Festival

August 23rd, Lake Sammammish

Come enjoy a new annual summer festival hosted by the United Communities of Laos! Join us for live music, cultural performances, Laotian food vendors, and much more. It will be free and open to the public!

Spotlight on the Waterfront Series

August 14, Salish Steps

Northwest Folklife is collaborating with Waterfront Park to showcase talented local artists in an all-ages event that celebrates the creativity of our region, as part of the Spotlight on the Waterfront series. Join us for a fun-filled evening, where community and creativity come together against the stunning backdrop of Elliott Bay.

Community Report

Investing in Culture, Together

Reflecting on our impact—and imagining what's next

Every Memorial Day weekend for the last 54 years, Northwest Folklife brings tens of thousands of people together to celebrate the cultures, stories, and creativity that define our region. The festival is and has always been a living, breathing showcase of what a community can look like when it's built on a foundation of care, connection, and creativity.

The impact is real—and so is the support we receive in return. From individual donors to cultural partners, from volunteers to small businesses, our work is powered by the community it serves. (Check out the graphs below to see how your support fuels Northwest Folklife and the work we do year-round.)

But sustaining this kind of community-driven cultural work has never been easy—and it's getting harder. Costs continue to rise: staffing, equipment, insurance, production—the full price of putting on a 20-stage festival in the middle of a major city has grown significantly.

And our year-round commitment is just as ambitious. From paid internships through the Cultural & Creative Workforce Development program, to supporting 150+ community curators through our Community Coordinator program, to documenting stories of culture bearers and craft-makers through our Public Archive—we're invested in the full creative ecosystem.

Thanks to a deep history of community support and strategic use of our resources, we've kept the festival free and accessible to all while centering artists and arts workers every step of the way. But we've reached a point where we can't continue doing things the same way.

The gap between what it takes to produce this festival and what we bring in has widened. The safety nets and backstops we once relied on are no longer there—and we're not alone. Arts and cultural organizations across the country are facing similar challenges.

Operational costs have gone up, yes—but what's also shifted is our collective understanding of what it means to value people. At Folklife, we believe that cultural work is real work. This festival doesn't run on stages and tents—it runs on people. And if we truly want to honor the communities, artists, and culture bearers who bring this event to life, then we have to put people first.

That means ensuring fair pay. It means compensating people not just for their time, but for the care, creativity, and labor they invest in building community. Folklife exists because of people. It thrives because of their ingenuity, their resilience, and their stories.

The truth is, while creativity has been nurtured in many places, the people behind that creativity have often been left behind. We see it in the wage gaps. In the burnout. In the struggle to meet even basic needs. Culture bearers, artists, and cultural workers have carried so much—often without the support they need.

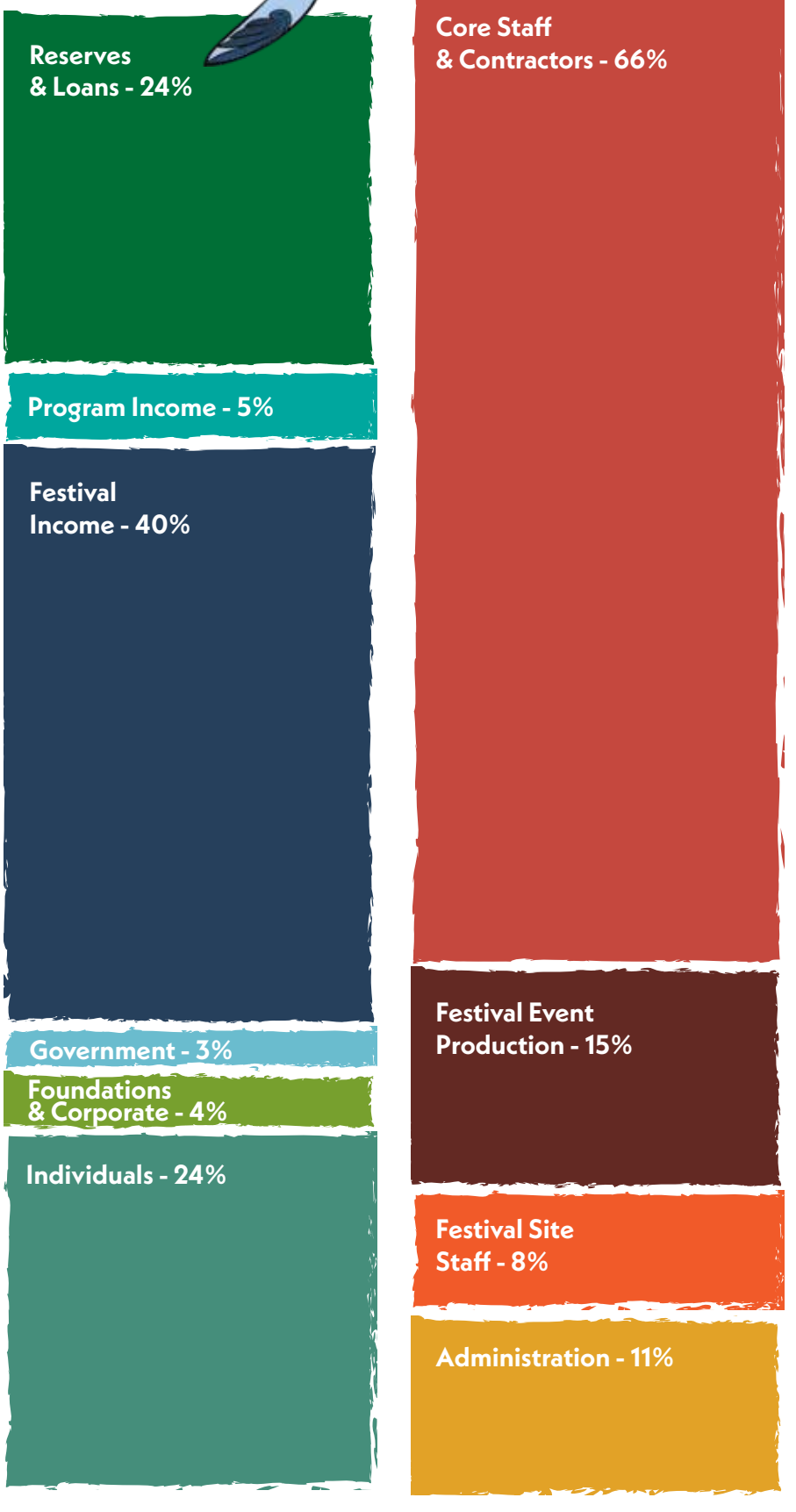
It's time we change that. People make Folklife possible. And people must come first.

So, what does that mean for Northwest Folklife?

It means we're doing what we've always done—leading with creativity, collaboration, and care. We're exploring new ideas, reimagining what sustainability can look like, and leaning into the values that have made this festival thrive for over five decades.

We know the future will require something different—and we're up to the task. With your partnership, we can build a future that's just as vibrant, bold, and rooted in community as our past.

Find us at the festival - let's tap into the community wisdom and energy that's been driving this organization forward for more than 50 years. We're so glad you're here.



BASED ON $1,963,340 OF OPERATIONAL COSTS IN 2024

Impact Report

2024 FESTIVAL IMPACT

2024 CULTURAL FOCUS:
MERAKI

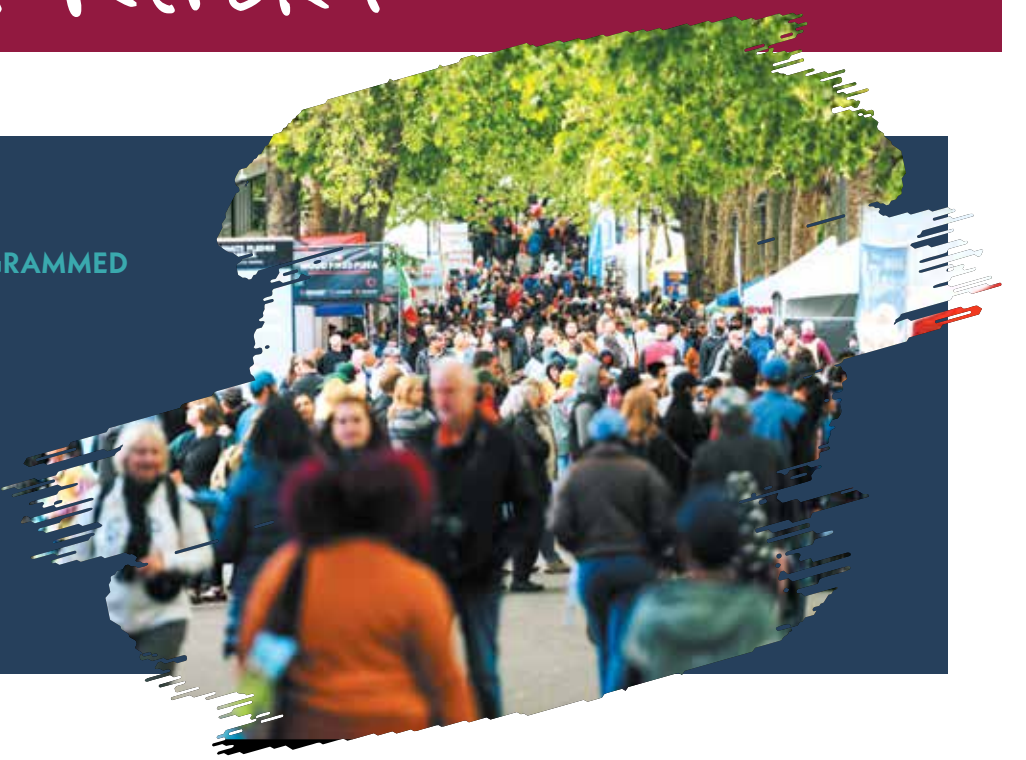
158
FIRST-TIME APPLICANTS PROGRAMMED

200,000
ATTENDEES

3,990+
HOURS OF PERFORMANCE

103
SHOWCASES

BEYOND NWFL
$1,457,996
in the hands of artists, culture bearers, festival professionals, and vendors



DIGITAL REACH

31 Countries Streamed the 2024 festival online
124,000 Views
12,155 Hours Watched

FESTIVAL VENDORS

203 Vendors earned **$1,202,082**

58% earn under $60K annually from their business
All our vendors are small businesses, many of whom are generational family businesses

65% live outside King County
Some travel from as far north as Alaska and as far south as Texas to share their art and creative work at the festival

40% vendors are first-time participants
Every year, new entrepreneurs and makers join the Folklife experience

8% live with a disability
A reminder that accessibility is essential to inclusive participation

70%+ WMBE
(women and minority-owned businesses)

ARTISTS

278 Artists were paid **$65,631**
267 Volunteer Artists who donated **$51,550** in labor

10% are youth and young adults, 41% are over age 60
Folklife remains a powerful space for intergenerational connection

29% live outside King County
The festival draws artists and audiences from across the region

1 in 5 artists live with a disability
Accessibility and representation remain core to our mission. As the program grows, working towards inclusive program design that supports individuals with disabilities is a focus

58% identify as low-to-moderate income
Folklife's initiatives in the creative economy work to improve their ability to sustain and create. A reminder that we still have work to do to make creative access to creative opportunity is essential

42% are first-time participants
Every year, new voices and perspectives join the Folklife community. Artists span all stages of their careers, from emerging creatives to established culture bearers

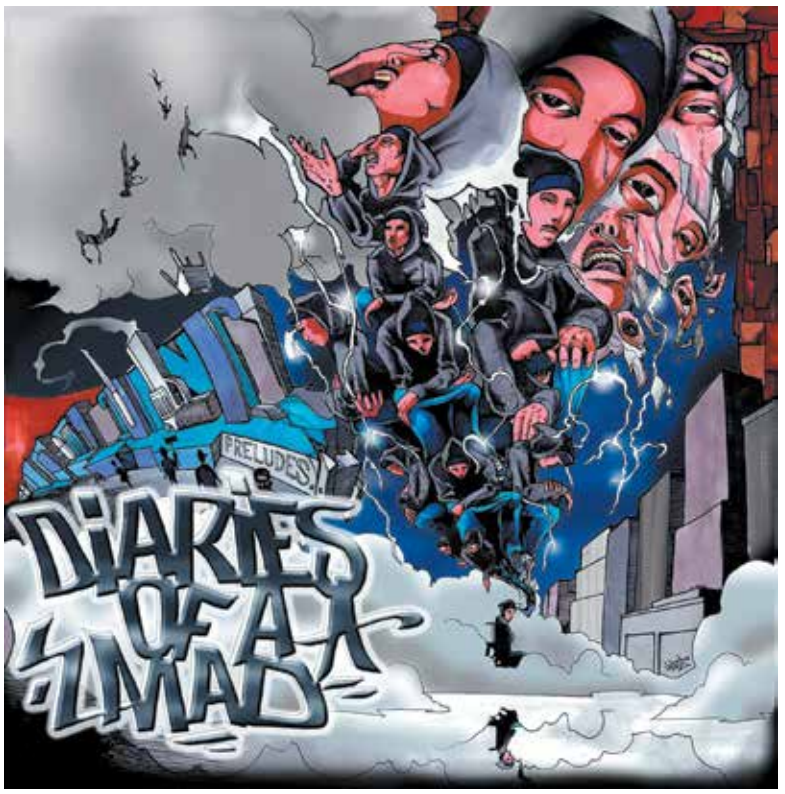
A snapshot of artist and culture bearer demographics from our 2024 participant survey. These responses reflect a subset of the more than 5,000 artists and culture bearers who power Northwest Folklife each year.

Artist Spotlight: King Khazm

kingkhazm.com | @kingkhazm

Tell us about yourself. How did visual art become part of your calling? What navigated you towards visual art?

Art has been my passion since the day I first held a crayon. As a child, I was able to escape into a world of my imagination where anything was possible. It has grounded me during difficult times and offered me a platform to express myself in ways I could not verbally.



Through this poster process, what does Ikigai mean to you?

Creating art for this year's festival was a full-circle moment. Someone who really believed in my talent early in life was an amazing art teacher named Ms Rainbow. She helped me receive my first scholarship award to a Summer arts program that really opened up some creative doors for me. Three decades later, I saw her at Folklife and she told me that she had been following me for many years and was so proud of me and the work I've accomplished. I was so incredibly touched to be reacquainted with her after so many years. That was the last time I would see her as she would pass about a year later. I would later learn of her incredible impact within the arts and jazz community, as well as playing an integral role in the early days of Folklife Festival. I find joy and purpose in doing art for this poster and dedicate this one to her. Thank you for believing in me Dee Dee Rainbow!

Truthfully, what was it like working in a collaborative environment for a project like this?

Sometimes collaborating with other artists can be tricky, but it was an absolute pleasure getting to know and working with Toka. I think our styles really meshed together well and creatively we were very much in sync.

TOP: *King Khazm*; MIDDLE: *Diaries of MAD*; BOTTOM LEFT: *Distant Lands*; BOTTOM MIDDLE: *Piscean Rifts*; BOTTOM RIGHT: *Dreamscapes*.

Artist Spotlight: Toka Valu

www.tokavalu.com | @tokavalu

Tell us about yourself. How did visual art become part of your calling? What navigated you towards visual art?

I am a Tongan illustrator and muralist based in south King County and deeply rooted in storytelling through my practice. My journey into visual art has been shaped by a strong cultural connection grounded in community engagement and service. Growing up, I was surrounded by traditional Tongan and Pacific Islander arts—oral histories, folk legends, cultural singing & dance, tapa cloth, tattooing, weaving; those cultural patterns, storytelling motifs - they stayed with me. Over the years, I found visual art was a way to connect my past and present, ancestry, and the brilliant dreams I imagine for my kids and my community's future. Public art and illustration, in particular, became my avenue for dialogue, representation, and shared experience.

Through this poster process, what does Ikigai mean to you?

Ikigai, to me, is the intersection of what and who I love, what I know I'm good at, what I feel the world needs, and what sustains me. As an artist, I've always sought a particular balance—creating work that is deeply personal yet echoes a communal message that's able to evolve. This process made me reflect on how art is more than just an aesthetic pursuit; it's perhaps one of the most effective vehicles for storytelling, accountability, and purpose.

What was going through your head as you were creating these images?

I thought a lot about layers—layers of meaning, shared values between cultures, and the ways in which nature reflects resilience, migration, and harmony. The process became a way to explore relationships: between choice and fate, past and present, the seen and unseen. I also considered how the illustration might exist in the public eye given that the animals and the elements in the background aren't really organized according to the environment we often associate with each animal. It was great to have the opportunity to think creatively beyond that and collectively work toward a joint vision that we were all happy with.

Flora and Fauna are prevalent themes in this poster. What were some of the thoughts that Ikigai brought forward with this imagery?

As artists, we often turn to the natural world to help us explore existential questions, especially around purpose. When we really got into the illustration process on this project, we were intentional about not assigning a binary or overly rigid meaning to ikigai in nature's cycle. We leaned into the idea of layering the composition: the generational presence of human beings symbolically represented, the slightly older presence of the creatures of the sea, air, and land, and then the even more ancient presence of the physical landscape itself—Mother Nature as the ultimate force that sustains and guides all life.

Anything else you'd like to add about this piece, the Cultural Focus, or your art in general?

I think this piece, like much of my work, is an offering. It's a reflection of the themes I keep coming back to—ancestry, identity, movement, and place. The Cultural Focus serves as both a framework and a connecting bridge to my heritage, my community, and the land which I no longer live in physically, but still lives in my heart. I hope that when people see this work, they appreciate the aesthetic but also find something that rings true for them, whether through personal meaning or a broader sense of connection through purpose.

TOP: ***Maui Toutai Fenua***; MIDDLE LEFT: ***Manongi***; BOTTOM LEFT: ***Joe Goes There***; BOTTOM RIGHT: ***Kainga Tangata'i Fonua***.

Folklife 2025 Schedule

SIFF Cinema Schedule

FRIDAY	★	Surviving the Robot Apocalypse	4:00-4:50 PM
	★	Song Swap Circle	5:30-6:50 PM
	●	Lyssa Bastet	7:30-8:00 PM
	●	The Affirmation Junkie	8:30-9:00 PM
	●	Rasheena Fountain	9:30-10:00 PM
SATURDAY	★	Chorando na Chuva: Tales of the Musical Soul of Brazil	12:30-1:15 PM
	●	**Glimmers in the Night:** Anastacia-Renee, Gary Copeland Lilley, Kristen Millares Young	2:30-3:15 PM
	●	Eva Abram	4:00-4:30 PM
	●	The Big Boing: How to Play the Jawharp	5:30-6:20 PM
	●	**Ghost Stories:** Eva Abram, Auntmama, Joanna Demarest	7:10-8:30 PM
	●	Paul Wagner	9:00-9:30 PM
SUNDAY	★	Rounds and Story Songs with Bowen Lee	12:45-1:30PM
	★	Resisting Erasure through Storytelling with Putsata Reang	3:00-4:00 PM
	●	Joketeller's Union	5:00-6:00 PM
	★	That Ribbon of Highway: Woody Guthrie in the PNW with Joel Underwood	6:30-7:30 PM
	●	**Northwest Storytellers:** Paul Chiyokten Wagner, Tom Rawson, Larry Hohm, Bowen Lee	8:00-10:00 PM

SIFF Classroom Schedule

FRIDAY	★	Naba Durga—Odissi Indian Classical Dance Workshop	4:30-5:50 PM
	★	'How to Write a Family Portrait' by Kristen Millares Young	6:30-7:30 PM
	★	Cómo escribir un retrato familiar by Kristen Millares Young	8:00-9:00 PM
SATURDAY	★	What Is a Chief? How Native Values Can Teach Resilience with John Halliday	1:30-2:30 PM
	★	Madhubani Painting: Ancient Art, Modern Freedom with Deepti Agrawal	1:30-2:30 PM
	★	Pow-Wow Dancing 101 Workshop with Lauren Nabahe	3:10-4:30 PM
	★	Homemade and Custom-Made Instrument Workshop	6:00-7:20 PM
	★	Improvising with Hildegard von Bingen	7:40-9:00 PM
SUNDAY	★	An Introduction to Kinko-Ryū Shakuhachi	12:00-1:20PM
	★	Measuring Mourning: A Ritual for Loss with Maia Brown	2:00-3:00 PM
	★	Solo Vocal Concert Workshop with Amy Denio	4:00-4:50 PM
	★	Buttonbox Accordion with Kory Tideman	5:30-6:20 PM
	★	Slop Jar Delta Funk Workshop with Nick Vigarino	7:00-8:20 PM
	★	Hip Hoppera Workshop	9:00 10:00 PM

★ Workshop ● Performance • See page 19 for **Rhythm Tent** schedule

FRIDAY 5/23

	Alki Court	Armory Court Stage	Artists At Play Stage	Center Theatre	Cornish Courtyard	Fisher Green Stage	Fisher Pavilion	Friends of Folklife	Jam Tent
4 PM-	**Alki Kickoff Party** 4:00-5:15 PM The Vashon Sessions DB Stewart	Cultural Attire & Dances of India 4:15-5:00 PM	The Timberbound Project 4:00-4:45 PM	Indian Classical Youth Ensemble 4:00-5:00 PM	Singing Like Pete Seeger Liked 4:00-4:45 PM	Ballard High School Folk Ensemble 4:00-4:45 PM	HS Swing with Eckstein Middle School Sr. Jazz Band 4:00-4:45 PM	Opening Ceremony 4:00-4:30 PM	TBD 4:00-5:00 PM
5 PM-			Folk Group VOLYA 5:05-5:50 PM	Das Biest Performance Project 5:30-6:00 PM	Rounds with Rita Smith 5:00-5:45 PM	Koa Koala 5:00-5:45 PM	**Friday Night Contra** 5:00-7:00 PM Hummingbird Contradance Band with Abigail Golden Calling Sound Crossing Band with Amy Hanson Wimmer calling	Vimana 4:45-5:15 PM Morgan McHugh 5:30-6:00 PM	
6 PM-	**Friday Evening Groovy Get Down** 5:45-7:30 PM Midpak Leo Leo	Joyas Mestizas 5:30-6:15 PM	Western Fence Lizards 6:10-6:55 PM	Merak Dance Company by Eury Rivera 6:30-7:15 PM	Gather & Sing 6:00-6:45 PM	**Hip-Hop Showcase** 6:00-7:50 PM Don Cruz Cayuga and Lurk Wellington Kenshi Killzzz		Chris Kenji Beer 6:15-6:45 PM	Fiddle Jam with Washington Old Time Fiddlers Association 5:30-7:00 PM
7 PM-		Todo Folklore Cubano 6:45-7:30 PM	Guma Gela Band 7:15-8:00 PM		Peace and Protest 7:00-7:45 PM			Golden Hart 7:00-7:30 PM	
8 PM-	**Fremont Fridays with Marshall Law Band & Friends** 8:00-10:00 PM	Sunshine from Polynesia 8:00-8:45 PM	Babes in Canyon 8:20-9:00 PM	**Instrumental Innovations** 7:45-9:00 PM Cello Experiment Seattle Guitar Circle	Seattle Song Circle 8:00-9:30 PM	**Ambient Showcase** 8:10-10:00 PM Max Stephens Bacchus Katrina Kope	**Friday Late Night Contra** 8:00-11:00 PM The Electrodes with Tom Wimmer Calling RiffRaff with Eric Curl Calling Orb Weavers with Isaac Banner Calling	Claire Coupland 7:45-8:15 PM Tre Paesani 8:30-9:00 PM	Jam with Rhapsody Project 7:30-9:00 PM
9 PM-		Rhythms of India Dance School 9:15-10:00 PM							

SHOW CATEGORIES

- Music Perfomance
- Participatory Music
- Music Jam
- Dance Performance
- Participatory Dance
- Story/Spoken Word
- Workshop
- Showcase
- Family-oriented
- Fashion
- Cultural Focus

KEXP Gathering Space	Mural Amphitheatre	Unkitawa	Vera Project
NW Folklife Archive Listening Party 4:00-6:00 PM	**Youth Folkestra** 4:00-6:10 PM Vancouver Fiddle Philharmonic Maplewood K-8 Orchestra Eckstein Middle School Concert Band	Cultural Learning and Teaching 12:00-3:00 PM	
		Inter-tribal Community Dancing 3:00-5:00 PM	Seattle Drum School of Music 4:15-5:00 PM
		Contemporary Native American Music 5:00-7:00 PM	STG's More Music @ The Moore 5:30-6:15 PM
	iBuildBridges 6:40-7:30 PM		Glitch Kibbitz 6:45-7:30 PM
	Latinx Dance Party 8:00-10:00 PM Brasil in Motion The Cumbieros		Anger Management 8:00-8:45 PM
			Shadow Pattern 9:15-10:00 PM

CDSS Community Calendar and Event Finder

Find music & dance events.
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cdss.org/events

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SATURDAY 5/24

Alki Court

- Polka Schmolka with the Polka Guyz — 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
- Simon Javan Okelo — 12:20-1:05 PM
- **Boogie and the Blues** — 1:30-3:30 PM — Eric "Two Scoops" Moore; The New Iberians
- **Kizomba Seattle** — 4:30-6:30 PM
- Lady A — 7:00-7:45 PM
- **Daybreak Star Showcase** — 8:15-9:50 PM — Joint Souls; Wasabi Samba

Armory Court Stage

- KUD Dilber — 11:15 AM-12:00 PM
- Grupo Folkórico Nuestras Raices — 12:30-1:15 PM
- Siam Smile Dance and Siam Olympia by Sunrise Culture Wedding — 1:45-2:30 PM
- Anadolu Turkish Folk Dancers — 3:00-3:45 PM
- Nalini and Jewels Of Fire — 4:15-5:00 PM
- **Fashion Show** — 6:00-8:00 PM — Stiches N Bloom; ThreadGoldz; Wabi Sabi Etc; Wood Land Jams; Heidi Grace Acuña; MEKA Clothing
- Zulu Jam (presented by 206 Zulu) — 8:30-10:00 PM

Artists at Play Stage

- Learn to Play a Song from the Heart w/ Peter Ali — 11:00-11:45 AM
- **Rockabilly Buddies** — 12:05-1:55 PM — Cowboy Andy and The Salamanders; Kinderocks
- **Family Dance** Open Band led by WB & Bonnie, Amy Carroll calling — 2:15-3:00 PM
- Watch and Learn the Steel Pan with Phinney Ridge Steel Band! — 4:00-5:40 PM
- Group Asi Somos — 6:10-6:55 PM
- STRUM: Seattle's Totally Relaxed Ukulele Musicians — 7:15-8:00 PM

Center Theatre

- **Fantasy From Asia** — 12:00-1:15 PM — Morning Star Korean Cultural Center; Japanese Koto Club; Jiayu Ma (Happy Dance Studio)
- American Radio Theater — 1:45-2:30 PM
- **Ragamala Showcase** — 3:00-4:30 PM — Satish Vyas; Mukundraj Deo
- **Turkish Showcase** Anadolu Turkish Musicians — 5:30-6:15 PM
- **SCARF Global Showcase** — 6:45-7:30 PM
- **Early Music presents Srivani Jade Ensemble** — 8:00-8:45 PM

Cornish Courtyard

- Greenwood Song Circle — 12:00-12:45 PM
- SeaChordsmen — 1:00-1:45 PM
- Pete Seeger Sing-Along — 2:00-2:45 PM
- Don Jenkins & Friends — 3:00-3:45 PM
- **Maritime Showcase** — 4:00-7:00 PM — Alex Sturbaum; Strikes A Bell; NORTH BY WEST; Gather Round; Shanghaied on the Willamette; TLSea

Eve Alvord Theatre

- Seattle Children's Theatre presents **The Pa'Akai We Bring** — 2:30-3:30 PM
- The Craic — 5:45-6:30 PM
- ACT Theater's Young Core Co — 7:00-7:45 PM
- Trivia Puppet Company — 8:15-9:00 PM

Exhibition Hall

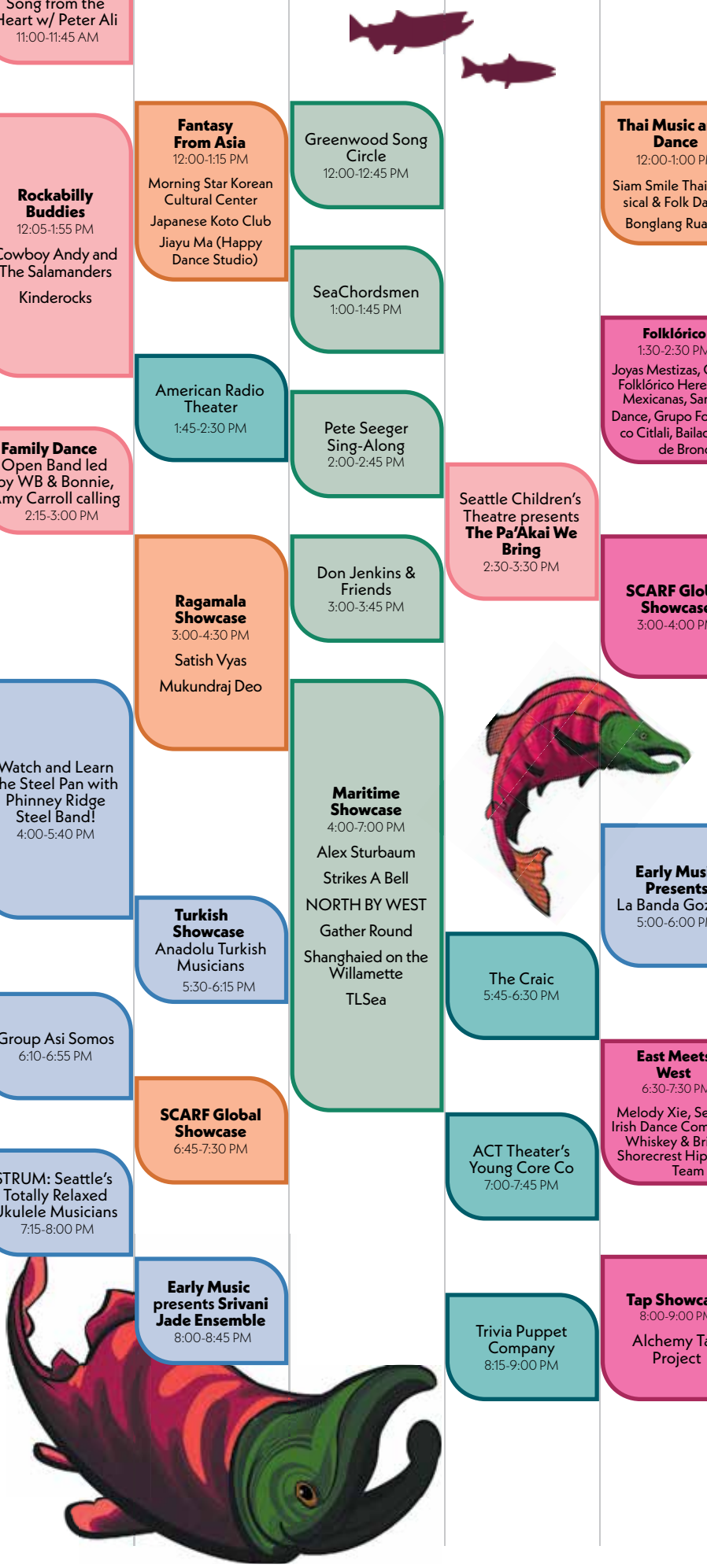
- **Thai Music and Dance** — 12:00-1:00 PM — Siam Smile Thai Classical & Folk Dance; Bonglang Ruam Jai
- **Folklórico** — 1:30-2:30 PM — Joyas Mestizas, Grupo Folklórico Herencias Mexicanas, SanZár Dance, Grupo Folklórico Citlali, Bailadores de Bronce
- **SCARF Global Showcase** — 3:00-4:00 PM
- **Early Music Presents** La Banda Gozona — 5:00-6:00 PM
- **East Meets West** — 6:30-7:30 PM — Melody Xie, Seattle Irish Dance Company, Whiskey & Brine, Shorecrest Hip Hop Team
- **Tap Showcase** — 8:00-9:00 PM — Alchemy Tap Project

Fisher Green Stage

- **Morris Showcase** — 11:30 AM-12:00 PM — MossyBack Morris Men Sound & Fury Morris
- Monamor Band — 12:35-1:20 PM
- Trío Guadalevín — 1:40-2:55 PM
- Cascade Cody — 3:55-4:40 PM
- **Bluegrass Showcase** — 5:00-6:25 PM — Hemlock Drive; The Barrelhouse Band
- Early Music presents Andre Feriante — 6:50-7:35 PM
- The Faux Paws — 7:55-8:40 PM
- Si Tu Savais — 9:00-10:00 PM

Fisher Pavilion

- **English Country** — 11:00 AM-1:00 PM — English dancing w/ Terry, Sande, & Olga. Ric Goldman calling; Anita, Susan, Dave with Dilip Sequeria Calling
- **Saturday Afternoon Contra** — 1:30-3:30 PM — les Fabulous Girls du Ouest Coast w/Craig Wolfe Calling; Raven and Goose with Koren Wake Calling
- **Scottish Country Dance** — 4:30-6:30 PM — Rachel Pusey; Harry Khamis; Backup Clan; Vienna Scheyer & Guinevere Saenger
- **Saturday Evening Contra** — 7:00-11:00 PM — Celtic Bay with Charlie Fenton Calling; Natterjack with Victoria Fox Calling; Fiddle Hellions with Shell Stowell Calling; Swiftcurrent with Annie Kidwell Calling



Friends of Folklife Stage	Jam Tent	K Prom Welcome Stage	KEXP Gathering Space	Mural Amphitheatre	Open-Air Dance Stage	The Rotunda Folklife Café	Unkitawa	Vera Project
				Dekoboko Taiko 11:00-11:30 AM			Coast Salish Storytelling and Flute Music 11:00-11:55 AM	Hambo with Harry Khamis 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
Duo Takinai 12:00-12:30 AM	Bluegrass Jam with The Geoducks! 11:30 AM-1:00 PM	Fantasy A 12:00-12:30 PM	Artist Interview Series: Guest TBD 12:00-12:40 PM	Path with Art Community Orchestra 12:00-12:45 PM	Youth of Uttoron 12:00-12:30 PM	Ozzie Ribas 12:00-12:30 PM	Contemporary Native American Music 12:00-12:55 PM	
Forrest VanTuyl 12:45-1:15 PM		It&i 12:45-1:15 PM	Artist Interview Series: Guest TBD 1:00-1:40 PM	**Brazilian Showcase** 1:15-3:15 PM Brazilian Swag International Capoeira Angola Foundation Samba da Renata VamoLá! Brazilian Drum & Dance Ensemble	TBD 12:45-1:15 PM	Luce Lane 12:45-1:15 PM	Náakw Tlingit Dance Group 1:00-2:00 PM	Tarantelle Dance workshop with Katherine Causbie 12:30-1:30 PM
Shelby Natasha 1:30-2:00 PM	Ukulele Jam with STRUM 1:30-3:00 PM	Waterbound 1:30-2:00 PM	Artist Interview Series: Guest TBD 2:00-2:40 PM		Tari Bali 1:30-2:00 PM	nance! 1:30-2:00 PM	**Native American Dance Showcase** Norman Roach and Family 2:00-2:55 PM	Irish Dance Workshop w/ Caroll-Henderson School of Irish Dancing 2:00-3:00 PM
Yoona Kim 2:15-2:45 PM		Wandervogel 2:15-2:45 PM			Enzian Schuhplattler 2:15-2:45 PM	K Van Petten 2:15-2:45 PM		
		Sarasin 3:00-3:30 PM	Hannah Jackson 3:00-3:30 PM		Master Cho's Taekwondo 3:00-3:30 PM	Emerald City Songwriter Circles 3:00-4:40 PM	Native Americana with Ryan LittleEagle 3:00-3:55 PM	
Kodō Araki VI 3:45-4:15 PM			Xolie Morra & The Strange Kind 3:45-4:15 PM					
The Légers 4:30-5:00 PM	Brazilian Choro Jam with Chorando na Chuva 4:00-5:30 PM	The Minstrels 4:30-5:00 PM	Reggie Garrett & Christine Gunn 4:30-5:00 PM	Hard Maybe 4:15-5:00 PM	Karin Kirkland School of Dance 4:30-5:00 PM		Native American Violinist Swil Kanim 4:00-4:55 PM	**CRC Stanwood Showcase** 4:15-6:15 PM DAYSIGNS The Mixdown EYE OF ARCADIA LEMON BOY
Carrie Jennings 5:15-5:45 PM		Porch Cat 5:15-5:45 PM		The Pazific 5:30-6:15 PM	Carroll-Henderson Irish Dancing 5:15-5:45 PM		Lakota and Diné Showcase with Norman Roach and Family 5:00-5:55 PM	
Nick Droz 6:00-6:30 PM	Celtic Jam with Waterbound 6:00-7:30 PM	Christopher Frick & the Blowhard Orchestra 6:00-6:30 PM			Syrena Seattle Traditional Polish Dance Ensemble 6:00-6:30 PM	Lady Queen Paradise 5:45-6:15 PM	**Red River Métis Jig** The Légers 6:00-6:50 PM	
Eulipion Friends 6:45-7:15 PM		Towse 6:45-7:15 PM		Kwetu Band 6:45-7:30 PM	Seattle Taal Squad 6:45-7:15 PM	**Singer Songwriter Showcase** 6:30-8:30 PM Sabrina Saed tuesday talaga KATANiiCA R'SHAD		**Seattle Gay News Queer Showcase** 6:45-8:45 PM Boy Heroine Atrocity Girl Day Soul Exquisite
The Beatbox Panda 7:30-8:00 PM					TusuyPeru 7:30-8:00 PM			
	Rising SunKirtan 8:00-9:00 PM			**Superfolk Ikigai Showcase** 8:00-10:00 PM				Ichi Bichi 9:15-10:00 PM

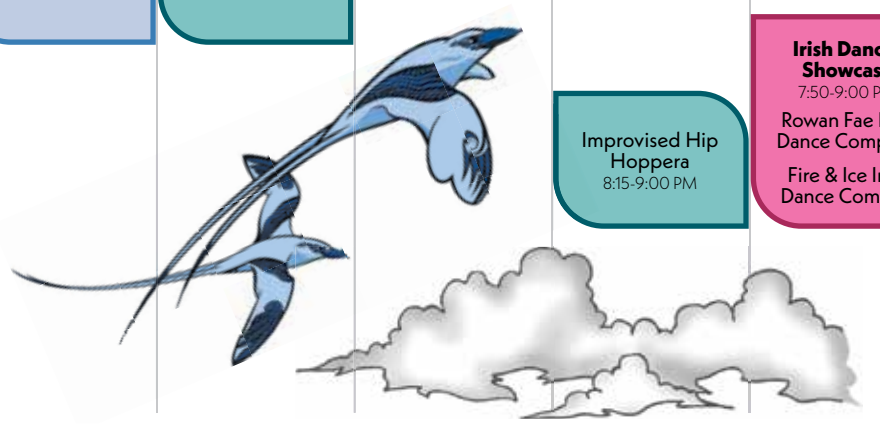
-11AM
-12PM
-1 PM
-2 PM
-3 PM
-4 PM
-5 PM
-6 PM
-7 PM
-8 PM
-9 PM

- Show Categories -

- Music Perfomance
- Participatory Music
- Music Jam
- Dance Performance
- Participatory Dance
- Story/Spoken Word
- Workshop
- Showcase
- Family-oriented
- Fashion
- Cultural Focus

SUNDAY 5/25

	Alki Court	Armory Court Stage	Artists at Play Stage	Center Theatre	Cornish Courtyard	Eve Alvord Theatre	Exhibition Hall	Fisher Green Stage	Fisher Pavilion
11AM-	Tekla Waterfield 11:00-11:45 AM	**International Dance** 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Allspice Galenspela; International Music Melange	Music Together with Music Center of the Northwest 11:00-11:45 AM		Pacific NW Sacred Harp Singers 11:00 AM-1:00 PM			The Geoducks 11:30-12:15 PM	**Sunday Morning Contra** 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Portland Megaband with Noah Grunzweig Calling Forgery with Kelsey Hartman Calling
12PM-	Amelia Day & The Cloves 12:15-1:00 PM		Baby Jam 12:05-12:50 PM	The Bushwick Book Club Seattle 11:45 AM-12:45 PM			**Hawaiian Showcase** 12:00-1:00 PM Hālau Hula Pūlama-hiaikalikolehua Halau Hula o Napualani	**Subversive Square Dance** 12:35-1:25 PM Billbillies w/ Tony Mates Calling	
1 PM-			Adventurous Tales with Joanna Demarest 1:10-1:55 PM	**Spotlight on Soloists** 1:15-2:30 PM Navya Gangad-harappa Ramesh Sharbani Datta Robbi A. Moore	Just Us Singers 1:15-2:00 PM		**Radost & KUD Behar: Blossoms of Joy** 1:30-2:30 PM KUD Behar Radost Folk Ensemble		
2 PM-	**Country Western Showcase** 1:30-3:30 PM Old Coast Rose Gerber	**Tango Showcase** 1:30-3:30 PM Stuart Zobel Patty Leverett	Folk Tales with Bowen Lee 2:15-3:00 PM		Yiddish Song w/ Harvey Niebulski & Marianne Tatom 2:15-3:00 PM	Seattle Children's Theatre presents The Pa'Akai We Bring 2:30-3:30 PM		**Songs of Latin America** 1:45-3:10 PM SurLlajta Correo Aereo	**Sunday Afternoon Contra** 1:30-3:30 PM Odd Sock with Elisabeth Monica Calling Joyride with Michael Karcher Calling
3 PM-				**Contemporary A Capella Showcase** 3:00-4:30 PM Emerald City Voices Seatown Sound Minor Adjustment Outpour RESTLESS VOCAL BAND Puget Sound Co.	Balkan Sing-along with Dina 3:15-4:00 PM		**Diwali Showcase** 3:00-4:00 PM Movements in Motion Seattle Indian classical dance jugalbandi		
4 PM-			Echo Art Center 4:00-4:45 PM		The Tango Cowboy 4:15-5:15 PM			**Palestinian Folk Arts Showcase** 4:10-5:40 PM House of Tarab Hala Saleh Seattle Dabke	
5 PM-	WINEHOUSE 4:30-5:15 PM	**Subversive Square Dance** 4:30-6:30 PM WWU Roots with Alex MacLeod Calling Douglas and Fir with Suzanne Girardot calling	Percy Hilo and Friends 5:05-5:50 PM				**Romanian Showcase** 5:00-6:00 PM Datina Folk Ensemble		**Waltz No Schmaltz** 4:30-6:30 PM Sky Blue Joy Street
6 PM-	Elnah Jordan Experience 5:45-6:30 PM		Taraful Pajura 6:10-6:55 PM	**Liar's Contest hosted by Marte Fallshore** Sign-ups for contest will take place at Center Theatre starting at 4:30pm Show: 5:30-8:00 PM		Phoenix, Firefly, & the Endless Highway with Walden Barnett Marcus 5:45-6:30 PM	**Middle Eastern Dance showcase** 6:30-7:30 PM Jomana, Seattle Qabila Project, Raqs al Nujum, Shula Azhar, House of Tarab	**The Residency in 3D** 6:00-8:00 PM Tazz Enrico AK Doobie UNO SaNia Jua The Residents NESTRA Tah-Jae Shante	
7 PM-	DUNIYA 7:00-7:45 PM	**Balkan Dance** 7:00-10:00 PM Da! Mozhem and the Nema Problema Chorale Kaba Seattle Toroman Învârtim Sindikat Sina Roza Trio Tsuica	Trio/Impro 7:15-8:00 PM			The Crankie Show 7:00-7:45 PM			**Swingin' the Night Away** 7:00-10:00 PM The SpeakEasy Band The Unknowns Savoy Swing Club Performance Troupe The Wiretappers
8 PM-							**Irish Dance Showcase** 7:50-9:00 PM Rowan Fae Irish Dance Company Fire & Ice Irish Dance Company		
9 PM-	**Martha's DIY Music Showcase** 8:15-10:00 PM Balcony Bridge Love So Deep					Improvised Hip Hoppera 8:15-9:00 PM		**Unkitawa Showcase** 8:20-9:50 PM Ryan LittleEagle DJ Big Rez	



Friends of Folklife Stage	Jam Tent	K Prom Welcome Stage	KEXP Gathering Space	Mural Amphitheatre	Open-Air Dance Stage	The Rotunda Folklife Café	Unkitawa	Vera Project
				CHIKIRI & the school of TAIKO 11:00-11:30 AM			Indigenous Flute Music with Peter Ali 11:00-11:55 AM	Seattle Balkan Dancers 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
Zje Mongol 12:00-12:30 PM	Klezmer Jam with Harvey Niebulski and Friends 11:30 AM-1:00 PM	Colleen Seymour 12:00-12:30 PM	Artist Interview Series: Guest TBD! 12:00-12:40 PM	Disha 12:00-12:45 PM	**Morris Dancers** 12:00-12:30 SeaWitch Morris, Side of the Tide Morris Dancers	Rick Fogel 12:00-12:30 PM	Native American Folk & Blues 12:00-12:55 PM	
Nancy K Dillon 12:45-1:15 PM		Jon Bartlett and Rika Ruebsaat 12:45-1:15 PM	Artist Interview Series: Guest TBD 1:00-1:40 PM		**Indigenous Dance Showcase** 12:45-2:00 PM Nahui Ollin Tezcatlipoca Norman Roach and Family	Cathy Britell 12:45-1:15 PM	Contemporary Native American Music 1:00-1:55 PM	Argentine Tango w/ Ilana Rubin 12:30-1:30 PM
Darsha Krishnan 1:30-2:00 PM	Jam with WWU Roots! 1:30-3:00 PM	Cecilia Eng 1:30-2:00 PM		**HONK! Fest** 1:15-3:05 PM Neon Brass Party Filthy FemCorps Chaotic Noise Marching Corps This Much Brass		Morris Pub Sing 1:30-2:30 PM	Hoop Dancing Exhibition by Ryan YellowJohn 1:55-2:30 PM	
Grace Honeywell 2:15-2:45 PM		Alan Ehrlich 2:15-2:45 PM	Artist Interview Series: Guest TBD 2:00-2:40 PM		Zaphara's Middle Eastern Dancers 2:15-2:45 PM			International Dance with Susan Wickett-Ford 2:00-3:00 PM
		Peter Heiskell 3:00-3:30 PM	Dog Mom 3:00-3:30 PM		Fijian Dance Group 3:00-3:30 PM	Emerald City Songwriter Circles 3:00-4:40 PM	Tlingit Dance Group Haan Dei Ijin 2:30-3:30 PM	
Martin & DeLisle 3:45-4:15 PM			Liv Victorino 3:45-4:15 PM				Social Dancing w/ Spearfish & Unkitawa 3:30-4:00 PM	
Bob-Chet Duo 4:30-5:00 PM	Capoeira with Seattle Capoeira Center & Capoeira Life 4:00-5:30 PM	Midnite Blu 4:30-5:00 PM	J.R. Rhodes 4:30-5:00 PM	Vawachi Marimba Ensemble 4:05-4:50 PM	Oinkari Basque Dancers 4:30-5:00 PM		Wačípi Demonstration 4:00-4:45 PM	The Next Generation 4:15-6:15 PM Northwest School House Band School of Rock Seattle
Brivele 5:15-5:45 PM		Seven Da Pantha 5:15-5:45 PM		**King Street Station Showcase** 5:20-7:20 PM Red Eagle Soaring The Rhapsody Project Totem Star	Michelle Badion 5:15-5:45 PM		Aztec Dance Performance 5:00-5:55 PM	
Jet Black Pearl 6:00-6:30 PM	Maritime Singalong with Mary Wilson and Bevan Bartlett 6:00-7:00 PM	Depth175 6:00-6:30 PM			Ballet Folklórico Mexico en la Sangre 6:00-6:30 PM	Katie Fitz 5:45-6:15 PM	Contemporary Indigenous Music with the JP Falcon Band 6:00-7:00 PM	
Ryan Hoffman and Jessica Logan 6:45-7:15 PM		Nikhil Bagga 6:45-7:15 PM			Poonam Kataria 6:45-7:15 PM	Wes Weddell 6:30-7:00 PM		Tha Day 6:45-7:30 PM
Blue Healers 7:30-8:00 PM	Irish Session with Alex Sturbaum and Friends 7:30-9:00 PM				Tlalokan 7:30-8:00 PM	Kat Bula 7:15-7:45 PM		
				Reggae Showcase 7:50-9:50 PM DJ Mista Chatman The Selassie Ites Reggae band Lion of Judah Band		Beyond Borders 8:00-8:30 PM		MANISHA 8:00-8:45 PM
								Left on Tenth 9:15-10:00 PM

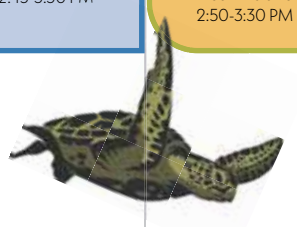
-11AM
-12PM
-1 PM
-2 PM
-3 PM
-4 PM
-5 PM
-6 PM
-7 PM
-8 PM
-9 PM

- Show Categories -

- Music Perfomance
- Participatory Music
- Music Jam
- Dance Performance
- Participatory Dance
- Story/Spoken Word
- Workshop
- Showcase
- Family-oriented
- Fashion
- Cultural Focus

MONDAY 5/26

	Alki Court	Armory Court Stage	Artists at Play Stage	Cornish Courtyard	Exhibition Hall	Fisher Green Stage	Fisher Pavillion	Friends of Folklife Stage	Jam Tent
11AM-	Now Defunkt 11:00-11:45 AM	**Irish Country** Seattle Irish Set Dancers 11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Vyunok 11:00AM-11:45 AM	Sing-Along with Tom Shindler and Friends 11:30AM-12:15 PM		**Sounds of Africa** 11:30 AM-1:00 PM Mahonyera Mbira Ensemble Pa Bobo Jobarteh	**Yiddish Dance** 11:00 AM-1:00 PM		Quebecois Jam 11:30 AM-1:00 PM
12PM-			Jamtown Howdy Band 12:05-12:50 PM		**School Choirs** 12:00-1:00 PM Cloud City Choir Montlake Elementary Choir			Alex Sturbaum 12:00-12:30 PM	
1 PM-	**Honky Tonk Showcase** 12:15-2:15 PM Creeping Time Kyle's Cosmic Country Band	**Scandinavian Dance** 12:30-2:30 PM Smilin' Scandinavians LØVLYS	**Salsa for Kids!** Baila District 1:10-1:55 PM	Seattle Raging Grannies 12:30-1:15 PM				The Spectacles 12:45-1:15 PM	
2 PM-			Zaina the Phenom 2:15-3:00 PM	Market Street Singers 1:30-2:15 PM	**Tahitian Showcase** with Te Fare O Tamatoa 1:30-2:30 PM	**Buskarama Showcase** 1:30-3:10 PM Robert Leslie Roosevelt Franklin Vox Realis Shady b Jim Page Sweet G Mr Unity	**More Swing Dancing!** 1:30-3:00 PM The Gortexans Birch Pereira & the Gin Joints	Drew Martin 1:30-2:00 PM	Cajun Jam 1:30-3:00 PM
3 PM-	Summer School 2:45-3:30 PM	Zwiefacher with Lisa Brooks 2:50-3:30 PM		Mozart Requiem Sing-along with Seattle Peace Chorus 3:00-5:00 PM	Lietutis and Griaustinis Folk Dance Groups 3:00-4:00 PM			The Marshall Family Band 2:15-2:45 PM	
4 PM-			Olympia Jamgrass Collective 4:00-4:45 PM			**Moisture Festival Showcase** 4:10-6:00 PM Montana Von Fliss Godfrey Daniels Louie Foxx India & Marigold Wren Schultz Bill Robison Vanessa Vortex Eric Haines Splinter Dance Co. Steve the Pretty Good Harry Levine	Bal Folk Dance 4:00-4:45 PM	**UW Songwriters Showcase** 3:45-5:40 PM Tanisha Deka Arthur Feres dormchair therapist Natalie Hinkey Austen Romanwolfe Beccobel	Irish Jam with Ming Chen 4:00-5:30 PM
5 PM-	Womxn in Blues 4:30-6:30 PM	**Cajun & Zydeco Dance Party!** 4:30-6:30 PM Bayou Envie WHOZYAMAMA	Pine & Shake 5:05-5:50 PM		Forgatos Hungarian Folkdance Ensemble 5:00-5:30 PM		**Monday Evening Contra** 5:00-9:00 PM The Légers with Chris Page Calling Countercurrent w/ Frannie Marr Calling Contra Quartet with Angela DeCarlis Calling Clever Hans with Shannon Horst Calling		
6 PM-			Kaley Lane Eaton 6:10-7:00 PM		HraiMore 6:00-6:30 PM			Natalie Hanes 6:00-6:30 PM	Old Time Jam with Forrest Carroll 6:00-7:30 PM
7 PM-	Kader Sunny 7:00-7:45 PM	**Salsa** 7:00-9:00 PM Baila District Yambambo			WA State Beijing Tongxianghui Association 7:00-7:30 PM	**Big Jewish Showcase** 6:30-8:45 PM Seattle Jewish Chorale Klezkidz Glitch Kibbitz		3 Wheel Drive 6:45-7:15 PM	
8 PM-	Blowout Heavies 8:15-9:00 PM							Kermet Apio 7:30-8:00 PM	TBD 8:00-9:00 PM
9 PM-									



- Show Categories -

- Music Perfomance
- Participatory Music
- Music Jam
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- Story/Spoken Word
- Workshop
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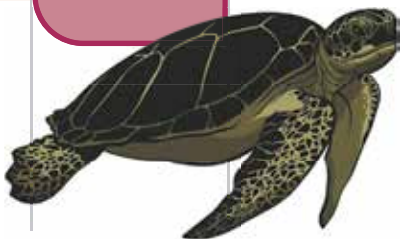
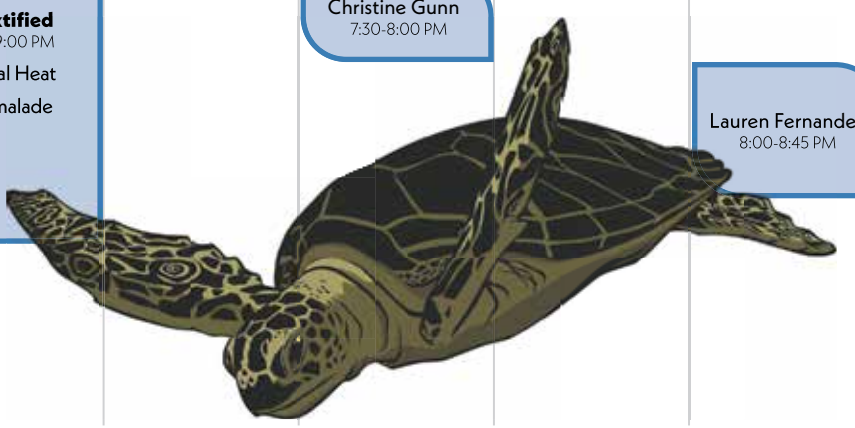
- Fashion
- Cultural Focus



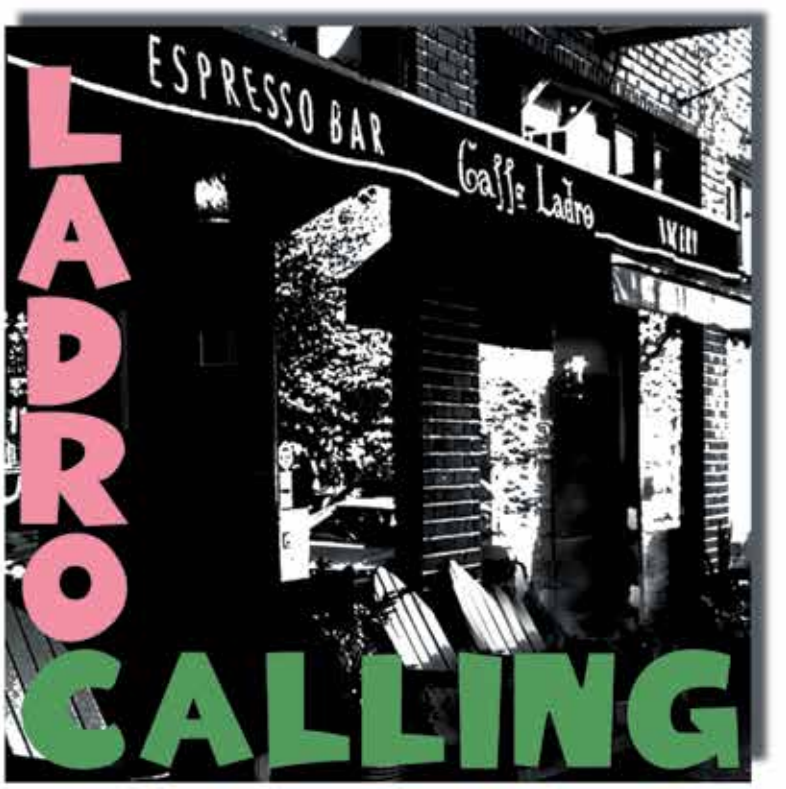
K Prom Welcome Stage	Mural Amphitheatre	Open-Air Dance Stage	The Rotunda Folklife Café	Unkitawa	Vera Project	
	Veteran's Memorial Showcase 11:00-11:20 AM				Scandi Dance w/ Robert Hamilton 11:00 AM-12:00 PM	-11AM
Kazmyn 12:00-12:30 PM	**Monday Morning Choir Hour** 11:45-12:45 PM Path with Art Singers & Veteran's Choir Seattle Labor Chorus	Massive Break Challenge | Massive Monkees 12:00-1:00 PM	LORIN 12:00-12:30 PM	Memorial Day Wačipi 12:00-5:00 PM		-12PM
TBD 12:45-1:15 PM			Henry Stagename 12:45-1:15 PM		Afro-Cuban Dance w/Todo Folklore Cubano 12:30-1:30 PM	-1 PM
Half Life 1:30-2:00 PM	**Gospel Showcase** 1:15-3:15 PM Robert Anderson/ Greater Seattle Area Fellowship Choir Higher Vision Dominick Weems Sr. Worship Warriors Lady Mercedes & Friends	Morado 1:30-2:00 PM	Monica Schley 1:30-2:00 PM			-2 PM
Fairweather Foes 2:15-2:45 PM		Eclectic Cloggers with Moonshine and Turpentine 2:15-2:45 PM	Nessa Grasing 2:15-2:45 PM		Charleston Dance w/ Kevin Buster 2:00-3:00 PM	
TBD 3:00-3:30 PM		Ana Montes & Flamenco Danzarte 3:00-3:30 PM	Tomo Nakayama 3:00-3:30 PM			-3 PM
			Christopher Atkins 3:45-4:15 PM			-4 PM
Nyce & Wyld 4:30-5:00 PM	**KNKX Showcase** 4:15-6:15 PM Birch Pereira & the Gin Joints Pak and The Lolos	La-Bonyo 4:30-5:00 PM			**Irish Rebel Music Showcase** 4:15-6:15 PM Rabbits Rebellion Sean Daly & The Shams	-5 PM
Colette Jones 5:15-5:45 PM		Tibetan Folk Dancing 5:15-5:45 PM	Izzy Burns 5:15-5:45 PM			
aunge 6:00-6:30 PM		The Flying Ghillies 6:00-6:30 PM	Simon Kornelis 6:00-6:30 PM			-6 PM
		Pipena Kakulu 6:45-7:15 PM	Shaun Crawford 6:45-7:15 PM		Asterhouse 6:45-7:30 PM	-7 PM
	Funktified 7:00-9:00 PM Global Heat Marmalade		Christine Gunn 7:30-8:00 PM			-8 PM
					Lauren Fernandez 8:00-8:45 PM	
						-9 PM



JamtownLive Rhythm Tent

FRIDAY	Open Drum & Dance with Carold Nelson	6-9 pm
SATURDAY	Rumbles & Rhythms with Jim Boneau	12-1 pm
	Jump Time with Jim Boneau	1-2 pm
	Pulse Play Circle with Abby Greene Bull	2-3 pm
	Salmon Run Drum with Jamtown John	3-4 pm
	Jump Time with Abby, Jim, and John	4-5 pm
	Afro-Cuban & Puerto Rican Rhythms with Arturo Rodriguez	5-6 pm
	Open Drum & Dance with Lansing Scott	6-9 pm
SUNDAY	Jump Time with Jim Boneau	12-1 pm
	Pulse Play Circle with Abby Greene Bull	1-2 pm
	Rumbles and Rhythms with Jim Boneau	2-3 pm
	Session All Stars with Jamtown John	3-4 pm
	Afro-Cuban & Puerto Rican Rhythms with Arturo Rodriguez	4-5 pm
	Rhythm Buffet with Tor Dietrichson	5-6 pm
	Open Drum & Dance with Caleb Raible-Clark	6-9 pm
MONDAY	Bones Workshop with Rick Fogel	12-1 pm
	Present Moment Drumming with Cindy Olejar	1-2 pm
	Angie Bolton & Dan Schmitt	2-3 pm
	West African Rhtyhms with Saeed Abbas	3-4 pm
	Common-Unity Drumming with Natty Riddims	4-5 pm
	Sun Moon Star Drum with Jamtown John	5-6 pm
	Open Drum & Dance with Natty Riddims & Seattle Hand Drummers	6-8 pm

Why Choose Reusable?
Reusables are safe.
• Reusables do not spread COVID-19. There are zero documented cases of COVID-19 surface transmission.
• Washing and drying procedures meet global standards to ensure safety.[1]
Reusables save money.
• Reusables pay for themselves in just a few months.
• The average savings for a small business are between $3,000 and $22,000.[2]
• Reuse builds brand loyalty.
Reusables save the planet.
• Consumers demand sustainable options to enjoy their favorite eateries.
• Reusable foodware reduces plastic pollution and has lower environmental impacts than single-use options.
1. PR3, "Part 7: Third-Party Washing, Sanitizing & Handling of Foodware," Reusable Packaging System Design -Specifications and Recommendations (October 2021)
2. Upstream, Reuse Wins Report (June 2021), XIV
Seattle Public Utilities
ReuseSeattle
Contact:
reuseseattle.org | 206.343.8505
ReuseSeattle@seattle.gov
DELIVER
USE
RETURN
COLLECT
CLEAN
REUSE
REPEAT!
Carbon impact of cups in a range of materials
Total CO2 (KG)
PP cups and the carbon reduction impact with reuse.
Water Eutrophication (Kg PO4e)
PP cups and the water usage with reuse.
*Research and graph by Upstream Solutions



COME VISIT US!

SEATTLE

close to folklife

Upper QA-2205 Queen Anne Ave N
Lower QA-600 Queen Anne Ave N
West Seattle-7011 California Ave.SW
Fremont-452 N 36th St
Pine St-801 Pine St
Capitol Hill-435 15th Avenue East
Fairview-400 Fairview Ave N
Ravenna-1222 NE 65th Street
2+U-1201 2nd Ave

NORTH

Edmonds-8403 Main Street
Lynnwood-6314 196th Street SW

EAST

Bellevue-333 108th Ave NE
Issaquah-1200 10th Ave NE
Bothell-18610 Bothell Way NE
Kirkland-104 Central Way
Kirkland Urban-400 Urban Plaza

YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD COFFEE SHOP

Since 1994

Special Activations

Parades Join in on a parade during the festival! On Saturday at 3 PM Seismic Sound Drumline will lead a parade, and Monday at 3 PM Tacomarama Community Street band will lead a parade! Parade route is TBA.

Morris in the Open Catch a pop-up Morris dance performance in the McCaw promenade on Saturday from 4-5:30 PM! Dance troupes include Sound and Fury Morris, Side of the Tide Morris Dancers, MossyBack Morris Men, & SeaWitch Morris.

The JamtownLive Rhythm Tent The Jamtown Rhythm Tent is located on the lawn north of the Fountain and hosts Rhythm workshops during the day, and open drum & dance circle at night. See the full schedule on page 19.

Fiber Arts in the Makers Space Our Fiber Arts tent has moved to the Makers Space. Stop by the Fiber Arts booth to see live demonstrations from basket weavers, knitters, cross-stitchers, needlepoint artists and more! Artists include Jenni Kane, Sara Faulds, Gabriela Nirino, Sarah Lovett, Louise Roby, and more to come! Full schedule is available in the Makers Space.

Live Artist Booth New this year we have added a Live Artist booth on Theatre Commons in front of The Rotunda Stop by to watch a rotating schedule of artists create custom works here. Schedule can be found online!

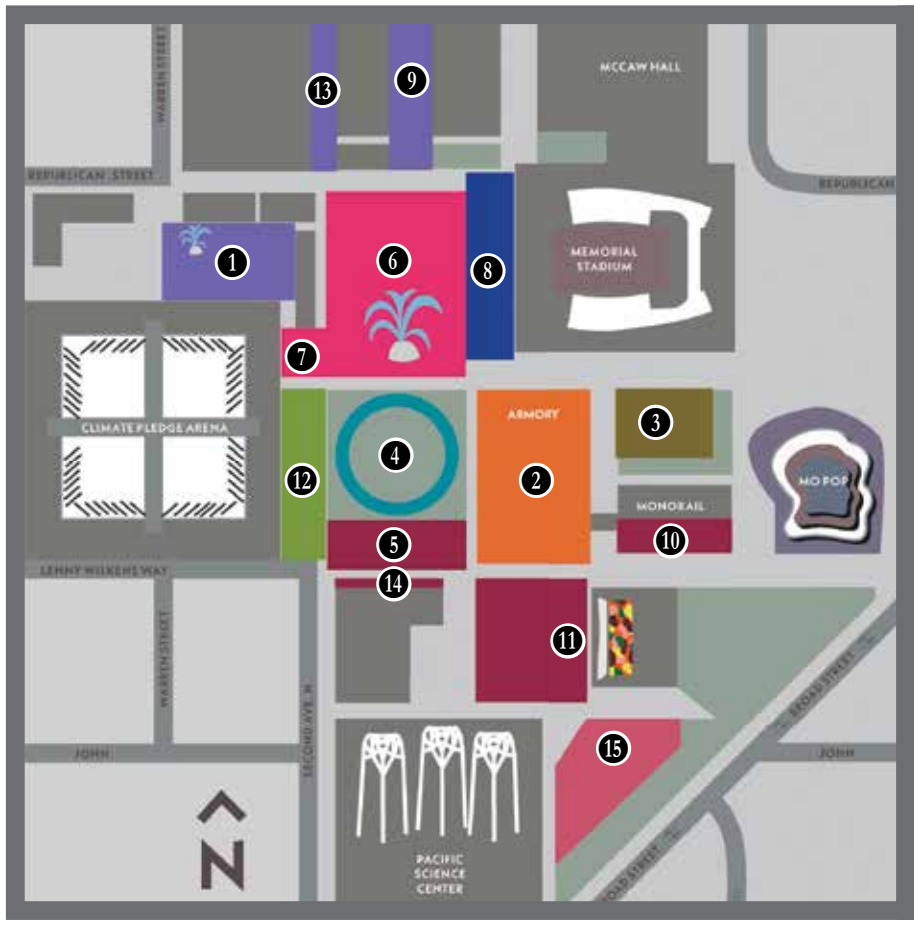
Programmed Busking Zones This year we've partnered with Buskarama to create and program several busking zones located near main festival entrances. Stop by each zone for a list of performers for that day. Please note these are pre-programmed rather than open busking spaces, so we ask that you save them for the scheduled buskers. Busking zones are located at the corner of 2nd avenue and Storm Way, Theatre Commons, and Harrison Street near Artist at Play.

Art Installation by Kurious Karissa Kurious Karissa will be doing live traditional spray paint art demonstrations in booth TC04 (see vendor map on page 22). Using unorthodox materials like recycled plastics and old newspapers, Kurious Karissa creates works of original art before your eyes in just 20 mins! Festival Attendees can also purchase and bring home Kurious Karissa's original works at the booth.

KEXP Listening Party Radio Show "The Festival Tapes: Echoes of Northwest Folklife" KEXP gathering space from 4-6 PM on Friday, 5/24. How do festival recordings from decades past speak to us today? During this show to kick off the festival, we revisit festival performances from the 1980s, uncovering the stories behind the music and highlighting artists who shaped the Pacific Northwest's musical identity. Featuring folk traditions from around the world, this show pairs archival recordings with reflections on continuity and change in our region's evolving soundscape.

Archive Listening Station Booth First floor of the Armory. Are you curious about what recordings and artifacts Northwest Folklife has in the Public Archive? Do you want to tune into the livestream where we feature interviews, performances, and curated listening playlists? Check out the new Archive Listening and Viewing Station in the Armory where we give you access to photos, videos, and recordings from our archive from over 50 years of performances.

Vendors



MAP KEY

1. Alki Court
2. Armory Court
3. Artists at Play
4. Fisher Lawn
5. Fisher Terrace
6. Food Row on Fountain Lawn
7. Fountain / Fisher Roadway
8. Fountain Pavers & Covered Walkway
9. Kobe Bell & Founders Court
10. Monorail
11. Mural
12. Storm Way
13. Theater Commons
14. Thomas Street
15. Unkitawa Circle of Indiginous People

ICON KEY

The Uncommon Market
Craft
Sidewalk
Fashion
Food

Around the World Bites and Market

- A Living Canvas 11
- All Bilingual Press..... 14
- Andean Essence 11
- Author Event Network 5
- B. Fuller's Mortar & Pestle 5
- Bumpus Burgers 11
- Caricatures by Over the Line Art..... 10
- Choco Frutti 14
- Colombian Delights..... 11
- Conscious Wear..... 5
- Cute Dumplings..... 11
- Deja Bags..... 11
- El Gringo Imports 5
- European Unique Imports 5
- Evergreen Guardian Imports & Handicrafts 5
- Face & Body Art by Kathleen..... 5
- Friduchis Mexican Clothing..... 14
- Glowfolx Festival Braids & Ponytails!..... 11
- Hampsan..... 11
- Heidi Khrone..... 5
- Hempmania..... 5
- Henna Reflections 11
- The House of Silver & Gold..... 5
- India Imports 5
- International Accents..... 5
- Kenyan Kitchen..... 11
- Lhasa Shop..... 5
- Lula Terra..... 11
- Magic Rice..... 10
- Mertha Shop 11
- MONIKA'S DESIGN 11
- Northern Outpost..... 5
- Reem's Kitchen 14
- Reham's Cake Gallery 11
- Rise & Shine..... 5
- Rosas Churros..... 11
- Runa Arte 5
- Sakti Jewelry 5
- Seattle Samosa 11
- Serious Essentials 14
- Sumac El Sol Handcrafted Textile Arts..... 5
- Tobi's Turquoise & Co. 5
- Wayi 5
- Zambalha 11

Artisans & Appetite Roadway

- Bread Truck Records 12
- BZ's Mini Donuts 12
- Caricatures by Over the Line Art..... 12
- Doodle Dragon Face Paint..... 12
- Forget-Me-Not Ice Cream Sandwiches 12
- Free Your Soul Sisters 12
- Lajitana Greek Cuisine..... 12
- Manderley Exotic Teas..... 12
- Paella House..... 12
- Pioneer Popcorn Inc 12
- Puffle Up 12
- Sap Sap Laos Deli 12
- Wyld Terra..... 12

Bites, Beats & Crafts

- All Hearts inc. 4
- Batch Life 4
- The Chicken Supply..... 4
- Dot Candle 4
- Forest Fancies..... 4
- Kathmandu MomoCha 4
- Knitpick Collective..... 4
- LiviJoyHoops 4
- MeerCatArt..... 4
- Nizhoniful Things 4
- Northwest Vibes Supply Co. 4
- Talisman Jewelry 4
- Torn in Seattle 4

Crafters & Cuisine Corridor

- 36 Streets Vietnamese Coffee & Tea 9
- AlFarid Handmade Accessories 1
- Alice Macdonald 9
- Amanda Metals 1
- Brightside Art and Gifts 9
- Brigid Trading Company ... 13
- Crafted from Scratch..... 9

Vendors

- Curry House Festivals 9
- Daffy Doodles Caricatures 9
- Dark Forest 9
- Deb's Upcycled Designs 1
- Dryad Woodworks 9
- Dupree Seasonings 1
- El Fuego Pepper Sauce 13
- FAINA Leather 13
- Glass art by Brien 9 Fingers 13
- Grass Skull Art 9
- Hey Habibi 9
- Isadorra 9
- JJfroyogo 9
- Kaigani Crafts 1
- KuriousKarissa 13
- Legit Adorable Pets 13
- Lia Mayu Designs 9
- Linda Creations 13
- LoveStrung Creations 13
- Matka Works 9
- Meadowbrae Farm 9
- Mooning Gnome Woodworking 13
- Murder Hornet Hot Sauce 1
- Northern Wonders 13
- Pashmina Palace 1
- Patrick Kdep 13
- Peace of the Earth Jewelry 13
- Pixie's Potions 9
- Pop Grace 13
- Ray's Food 13
- Recetas De Abuelita 13
- RedClothespin 9
- Rumba Notes Lounge 13
- Sachisunny Creation 13
- ShelbyGraffics 13
- Siena May Photography 9
- Simply Quilled Designs 9
- Six of Wands Designs 9
- Spir Candle Co. 9
- Street Kitty Glass & Curiosities 13
- Sub-Zero Freeze Dried Candy 1
- Sweetpea & Boy 13
- T. M. Originals 13
- Teal.Moonbeam 9
- The Hungry Sloth 1
- The Remontant 1
- Twisted & Beautiful 13
- We Bee Kind 13
- Whiskey Terra Foxtrot 1
- Wildflower 13
- Woven Chains Jewelry 9

Eat, Play, Create

- Bubble World 3
- El Koreano 3
- Gourmet Licorice Ropes 3
- Ma & Pops 3
- Majestic Adventures - Foam Swords & Fantasy Gear 3
- Mama Row's Caramel 3
- Name Trains 3
- Napat Craft 3
- NMC Design Studio 3
- Po'Boy & Tings Food Truck 3
- Sew Nice Designs Jamila Dolls 3
- Una's Kettle Corn 3

Flavors and Fun

- Blinchiki & Raclette Melted Cheese 6
- Chimney Cakes 7
- Dumpling Tzar 7
- JJ Dole Whip Tropical Treats 7
- Loaded Fries 6
- Thai Street Food 6
- Truly Mediterranean 7
- Zieglers Bratwurst Haus 6

Handmade Haven

- A Little Sun 8
- Art By Dakota Dean 8
- Be Good Monster 8
- Bella Lulli 8
- Cascade Press 8
- Cheri A Ellis 8
- Chules 8
- The Collectables 8
- Darras 8
- Derek Jones Glass Art 8
- Distinctively U Artisan Bath and Body 8
- Dreampillows 8
- Erica Halliman Creations ... 8
- The Fancy Accent Tea Co 8
- Far Gone and Beyond 8
- Fat Dragonfly Collection 8
- Fin & Feather 8
- Frida Haas Studios 8
- Fusion In Glass 8
- Hawthorn & Honey 8
- Hellner Arts 8
- Hmong Needlecrafts 8
- Imagination In Design 8
- Imo Madoi 芋円居 8
- Justin Hillgrove's Imps and Monsters 8
- Knotty Nest 8
- Linda McClamrock Paper Collage 8
- Lunaraya Soaps, Scents & Styles 8
- Marakesh Leather 8
- Margaret Swanson-Vance 8
- Mehndi Madness Inc 8
- Mistura Timepieces 8
- Naomi Amber Dawn Art ... 8
- Pure Soul 8
- San Miguel Art 8
- Scarabajo 8
- Sew It Seams Tie Dye Clothing 8
- Shoalwater Pottery 8
- Sketches By The Sea 8
- uzura 8
- VR Seeds and Fruits 8

Threads fashion Vendors

- FARMER 2
- MEKA 2
- Stitches N Bloom 2
- ThreadGoldz 2
- Veronique Loggins 2
- Wood Land Jams 2

Unkitawa Circle of Indigenous People

- Original Philly's 15
- Sibert Seciwa 15

Vendors

Kuleana Corridor

Starting in 2023, Kuleana Corridor is one of our newest additions to the festival and has intentional programming to center the communities who are working at the intersections of food & land sovereignty, environmental sustainability, community health, and climate justice.

Kuleana is a Hawaiian ʻōlelo (word, quotation, statement, utterance, term) that describes the state of being responsible and accountable for what is within one's power and reach. Our hope for Kuleana Corridor is to provide a space at Folklife for people to connect to this feeling of responsibility so that we, as a collective community, may move throughout the world with care and wisdom in our efforts to course-correct the effects to our lands and people. As we develop this philosophy in our festival, our intention is to provide gathering space for kuleana; for the spark of care to ignite our collective accountability to steward this land for future generations.

This kind of responsibility isn't limited to the way that we interact with the land. It stretches to a practice of kindness, stewardship, welcoming, teaching, and honoring all the things that the land supports. This festival isn't just a place to listen to music, kick up your heels, or eat delicious food. This festival is an invitation to participate. In this sense, Kuleana is necessarily the way that we interact with each other.

KULEANA BOOTHS

- Alimentando al Pueblo
- Community Alliance for Global Justice
- Danny Woo Garden
- Haki Farmers
- Nurturing Roots
- Sustaining All Life
- Washington/PCC Farmland Trust
- Watershed Community Development

Threads of the People

In every corner and crevice of the world, just like the songs that we sing, the food that we cook, or the dances that we step to, there also exists the garments, jewelry, headwear, and accessories that adorn and dress our bodies for the rituals, celebrations, and customs that mark our special and even routine moments in life.

Threads of the People explores fashion as an indelible and connected ingredient of the folk tradition. There are all sorts of ways that fashion expresses itself. With the convergence of cultures, the expansion of trades and workforce, fashion is more than vogue and popularity, it is self-expression, function, and ritual combined.

Alongside the themes of responsibility explored in our Kuleana Corridor, thrift, consignment, Goodwill, and other second-hand stores have become the new inspiration and source for people to access their unique style. Repurposing through clothing swaps not only gives people another way to shop, it also shifts the paradigm of fashion as commodity.

The focus of Threads of the People is to underscore this idea of reusable fashion, empowering us all to find our own style creatively and responsibly.

THREADS BOOTHS

- MEKA
- Stitches N Bloom
- The Root and The Loom LLC
- ThreadGoldz LLC
- Wabi Sabi Etc
- Wood Land Jams

Makers Space

This is our 4th year of the Makers Space, which was created to bring the making of the craft to the forefront, not just the finished product. As we reflect on this year's Cultural Focus, Ikigai, this festival activation really comes into focus. While last year's focus underscored the role that passion plays in creating a making things, this year's focus hones in on the meaning behind the craft.

The Makers Space provides hands-on opportunities in the wide world of craft. It is the antithesis to mass-produced, cheap, and quickly made products. Arguably, it is the salve that shifts our priority to locally produced, hand-made, sustainably sourced shopping. Beyond the transactional element, though, it also brings us closer to the process (and hopefully, the admiration and respect) of craft.

This element of the festival spotlights the things made by hand by the folx that spend years developing the skills and techniques to produce one-of-a-kind items, wares, and tools. Just like other arts disciplines, craft arts have been able to introduce and absorb new technologies, advancing the skillfulness of the art form while updating it without sacrificing the legacy and creativity of the craft itself.

The Makers Space encourages and instills wonder and imagination in our own creative imaginings and curiosities. As well, we are hoping to pique people's interest in the deep well of resources and organizations that teach and engage those curiosities around the city, county, state, and region.

MAKERS BOOTHS

FRIDAY

- Daniela Mahoney
- Scían Hayes
- Angel Duvual
- Seattle ReCreative

Saturday

- Scían Hayes
- Deepti Designs
- Daniela Mahoney
- Seattle Children's Museum
- The Vera Project
- Otter & Penguin Makerspaces
- Center for Washington Cultural Traditions
- ASL Lounge Sponsored by Visually Speaking
- On the Block

Sunday

- Scían Hayes
- Daniela Mahoney
- Seattle Children's Museum
- Otter & Penguin Makerspaces
- Center for Washington Cultural Traditions
- ASL Lounge Sponsored by Visually Speaking
- Valeria Ortiz
- On the Block
- Piece of Peace

Monday

- Scían Hayes
- Center for Washington Cultural Traditions
- The Vera Project
- Angel Duvual

Staff Picks

Michelle Searle, Volunteer and Office Coordinator

- Correo Aereo This has always been one of my personal favorites. This duo perfectly blends skill, chemistry, and folk tradition, crafting something truly unique that respects the past while celebrating the present. Catch them Sunday on the Fisher Green Stage at 2:35 PM

- Alki Court Stage- I'm not even sure how to pick what I wouldn't want to see at this stage. There is such an eclectic, multigenerational mix of entertainment throughout the weekend, that anytime you stop by, there will be something worth staying for.

Bonnie Fox, Vendor & Sponsorship Sr. Lead

- Fashion Show! I am so excited to see original pieces, models and the amazing outfits the Fashion Vendors curate for this runway experience inside the Armory Court.

- Artist At Play Stage: Watch and Learn the Steel Pan with Phinney Ridge Steel Band; Family Dance; Storytelling with Joanna Demarest; The Kids Salsa workshop and so much more. Food, Vendors and amazing performances is where I may just camp out for the weekend!

- Alki Court Stage: with Performers with words in their taglines like: psychedelia, hip-hop, polka!, Boogie Woogie and Disco! This stage has it goin' on! A little of everything! Vendors and a Yummy Food Vendor; It seems like this stage is going to be a crowd-pleaser for sure.

Alejandra Hillon, Performer Relations Coordinator

- Instrumental Innovations Showcase — This showcase features two groups (Cello Experiment and Seattle Guitar Circle) who show all the different things you can do with just one instrument. Both groups take several musicians playing the same instrument and combine them for some incredible sounds. Check it out at Center Theatre on Friday at 7:45 PM!

- UW Songwriters Showcase - Check out the UW Songwriters Showcase on the Friends of Folklife Stage on Monday at 3:45 PM! This showcase was curated with the help of The Songwriters Circle at the UW, a student organization that's been doing a great job of bringing new voices to the local songwriting community. They also have some performers playing on the KProm and Rotunda stages on Monday before their showcase, so be sure to check them out as well!

Bacchus Grenfell, Programs Coordinator

- Depth175 - I appreciated listening to how eclectic this artist's breadth of work is - their production style spans a multitude of influences and genres and takes you on a journey through your headspace. You can catch their performance Sunday on the K Prom Welcome Stage at 6 PM.

- Shadow Pattern — If you're looking to drift off to the wavy sounds of surf rock psychedelia, this band provides a perfect auditory backdrop for those looking for a space to groove along to their rhythms and soaring melodies, as well as for those concert-goers who enjoy standing near the back of the venue avoiding eye contact in order to ponder their existential uncertainties as the music carries them away. You can see them on Friday in the Vera Project starting at 9:15 PM.

- Homemade and Custom-Made Instrument Workshop by 3 Hand Stephen - As someone who loves to seek out different DIY instruments and unconventional ways of producing sounds, I really appreciated this artist's approach to hosting a workshop, where attendees will have a chance to experience playing a cigar box guitar, wine box bass, a playable musical sculpture, and more. Festival attendees can participate in this workshop on Saturday in the SIFF Classroom at 6 PM.

Sarah Kinney, Programs Manager

- I am excited for the Daybreak Star showcase on Alki Court. Joint Souls and Wasabi Samba are both such fun, upbeat acts. Alki Court on Saturday night will be the spot to be!

- The programming in Eve Alvord this year, especially The Trivia Puppet Company and The Crankie showcase. I love the wide breadth of performances we have at the festival, and especially love seeking out things that are a little bit different, like a shadow puppet show. Everything in that venue is really cool and interesting this year, check it out.

Camryn Miyashiro, Performer Experience and Special Programs Intern

- Palestinian Showcase — I am so excited to listen and experience the great artists in this showcase! It will be an amazing celebration of Palestinian culture and art. Be sure to catch the show on Fisher Green Stage on Sunday afternoon!

Atrocity Girl — I am a huge fan of Atrocity Girl! They are a local queer hard rock group that packs an energetic sound and performance! Don't miss them in the Queer Showcase at The Vera Project on Saturday evening!

Emily Silks, Archivist

- SIFF Ghost Stories: I am happily surprised to see that there will be a showcase at the SIFF venue featuring ghost stories! The art of storytelling is a beautiful craft and I love the idea of being fully immersed in a story, let alone a ghostly one! Check it out on Saturday from 7:10-8:30 PM

- Jet Black Pearl: I saw this artist last year and she blew me away! Jet Black Pearl is an exceptional multi-instrumentalist, skilled in the accordion, flute, and looper pedal, who writes with clever lyricism and biting humour. I found myself laughing while thinking deeply about each song's message throughout the set last year. Her performance should not be missed! Sunday, 6:00-6:30 PM at Friends of Folklife stage.

Community Voices

Unikitawa: What is "Wačípi?"

By Kariel Galbraith

Every piece of the American continent has its own language: the language of the land and her first people. These are the languages that were breathed into the air a long, long time ago and still flow from the mouths of Indigenous peoples across North, Central, and South America.

In the Puget Sound the land knows lhšucid ("luh-shoot-seed"). This place now known as Seattle has been occupied by the tribes and bands of the Indigenous Coast Salish peoples for thousands of years. Today, the Coast Salish graciously share their homes with American Indian, Alaska Native, and Indigenous people from across the Americas and beyond. Seattle and its metropolitan area are home to Indigenous people from all tribal backgrounds. It is a hub of Indigenous culture. Native languages from across the world stream through the air of this place.

One of the languages that now flows through Seattle is Lakhótiyapi (Lah-koh-tee-yapi), or the Lakota language. This language is rooted in the lands of the Očhéthi Šakówiŋ (Och-et-ee-shak-OH-ween), the Lakota people of the great plains of North America.

The word wačípi (wah-CHEE-pee) means "dancing" or "celebration." It is how Lakota people refer to what may be more commonly known as powwows. These wačípi are intertribal gatherings where Indigenous people celebrate the life and beauty of their people. In these spaces, people will dance, share culture, share songs, share food, and socialize with community members. Wačípi uplift Indigenous ways of knowing, continuing unbroken oral traditions of teaching through story, song, and dance.

What makes many Indigenous people feel wealthy is twofold: how knowledgeable one is about their culture, and how gracious one can be towards others. At traditional wačípi, people show their wealth by giving things away freely – gifts, money, and goods. Families and community members will sponsor dance "specials," requesting dancers to do specific styles of dance to honor someone—perhaps a family member who has passed away. They will honor dancers whose love for their people is palpable when they move, by presenting them with gifts. It is not uncommon for some wačípi to also have contests. These contests reward dancers for their practice, skill, and dedication to their art, as well as the beauty and intricacy of their regalia.

Wačípi are just one of many ways that Native people share the vibrancy of their culture with the public. As a sacred but non-ceremonial space, wačípi are open to everyone. During intertribal dances, which will be announced by our MC, please join us in the wačípi circle for social dancing. All are invited to feel the power of the drums, hear the strength of singer's voices, and see the passion in the moves of our dancers.

Unkitawa is a Native non-profit, dedicated to uplifting Indigenous arts and culture in King County, Washington. Our organization, made up of staff from diverse tribal backgrounds, proudly highlights Lakota language in our programming under the guidance of Lakota elders and culture bearers. Our organization's name, Unkitawa, means "ours, yours, and mine" in the Lakota language, a teaching that offers that what belongs to each of us individually equally belongs to all living things. Through our work, we educate people about Indigenous culture, helping our Indigenous community to heal, and growing our broader community's understanding and appreciation for Indigenous cultures.

A Moment to Think

By Stone Addington, Ph.D.
Director of Programs & Deputy Executive Director
Humanities Washington

A moment to think can be hard to find. Distractions intrude, whether your phone is chirping or an appointment is looming. It is easy to feel like a rubber ball thrown hard, ricocheting against the world endlessly, with little control over where it goes next and no chance to simply stop. An opportunity to collect your thoughts and apply the full power of your mind to a question or idea can seem like a luxury. But we are not rubber balls. We are people needing what people need: thinking, talking, writing, wondering.

The humanities offer what is needed: a chance to learn and consider. History, philosophy, literature, and the study of culture, among other disciplines, provide fertile ground for nuance and context, knowledge and wisdom, contemplation and connection, understanding and illumination.

But access to the humanities is not spread evenly across our state. Most communities do not have a college or university nearby that might be able to provide resources. Even for those that do have geographical proximity to these institutions, there are real obstacles to meaningful access to the expertise that is contained within. Having a college in town is one thing. Feeling invited is another.

Humanities Washington aims to remedy this by sharing the knowledge and wisdom of the humanities with every corner of Washington State. Our mission is to create spaces to open minds and bridge divides, and this is exemplified by our Speakers Bureau program. The Speakers Bureau roster is a collection of 30+ professors, artists, tradition bearers, journalists, and more, chosen not only for their expertise, but also their ability to lead productive conversations and provide a warm welcome to the humanities. Humanities Washington curates this roster and funds over three hundred events per year, spanning our state and touching every county.

A program partner in Walla Walla once described Speakers Bureau as a "lifeline to ideas, thoughts, and community." Speakers Bureau acts as a connector and facilitator, making it possible for any community, no matter how small or underresourced, to have an expert visit, spend time with them, and share the wealth of their knowledge. By working with libraries, museums, senior homes, schools, and other community hubs, Humanities Washington seeks to bring the humanities to all.

When communities come together to engage in conversation guided by the humanities, they deepen their understanding of the world and strengthen their connections with each other. Speakers Bureau ensures that opportunities to explore new perspectives, appreciate historical context, reflect philosophically, and connect deeply are widely shared. From Aberdeen to Zillah, every person deserves access to the richness that humanities offer. We invite you to take a moment to think, talk, write, and wonder with Humanities Washington.

Cultivating Collaborations

By Shana Bestock.
Artistic Associate, ACT Contemporary Theatre

I'm a Folklife baby, and spent my childhood celebrating my birthday in the company of world-class dance, music, and the vibrant energy of artistic community. I also grew up as a theater artist – and for me the making of folk and the making of theater are intertwined.

As the Artistic Associate at ACT Contemporary Theatre, a flagship regional institution dedicated to connecting artistic

Community Voices

ambition with civic engagement, I jumped at the chance to partner with NWFoklife.

Ben and the Folklife team have been fantastic partners. Every season, Ben brilliantly curates opening night entertainment in ACT's lobby spaces, highlighting tremendous local musical talent who enrich the themes and experience of the play with their artistry. It boosts the lobby experience with Festival-like energy, and launches production into the cultural conversation with joy. And our partnership cross-fertilizes our audiences – it shouldn't be a surprise that people who enjoy folk music are also people who enjoy live theater and vice-versa!

We've been graced with incredible musicianship and delightful performances from all sorts of instruments and band configurations. We could never have curated such a dynamic, diverse series on our own. I've learned so much about the rich diversity of music in our region. It's such a gift to host that kind of excellence in our space.

We also just started partnering with Folklife on our New Works Northwest Festival – an annual celebration of brand-new plays from regional artists. New Works Northwest fosters a thriving community of artists, students, practitioners, and audiences passionate about contemporary theater. Bringing in a live musical element literally underscores how new work is born of deep listening and creative collaboration, enhancing the audience's spirit of playfulness and discovery.

In turn, ACT Theatre has brought our Young Core Company (YCC) – youth ages 14-19 – to NWFolklife to showcase our educational work. The YCC develops young people as artists and citizens through outstanding experiential theatre training in a context of civic engagement and community building. We cultivate a professional theatre environment in a culture of fun, inclusion, and supported risk-taking. Our Folklife shows have centered adventurous new comedic plays on environmental themes and featured international collaborations between our students and students and artists in Europe.

Both ACT and Folklife are to me an expression of Ikigai – the idea that what makes life worth living is an ongoing dialogue of art and community. For me, Ikigai lives in empathy – appreciating how each of our instruments, arts or organizations expresses the human condition. We create in our own spaces and make our own melodies, but we also have a responsibility to the greater conversation, to find harmony and make room for others. We create traditions that can be passed down and reinterpreted by the next generation. By partnering, we expand and amplify our collective capacity.

Partnership is the key to our ability to survive and thrive. It brings visibility, feedback, support, and fresh ideas. Sure, it can feel overwhelming to even think about someone else's org when we're trying to save our own. But recognizing what another org trying to do and how it matters - that's how we'll save each other. We're all trying to heal, repair, reimagine, reach for beauty. Partnership allows us to see how others are living our shared values, and be uplifted in new perspectives. Working with NWFolklife has been a profound and thrilling exercise in this kind of solidarity.

Partnership is a jam session – a lot of it is trying to listen to the other instrument and figure out where the harmony could live. In times of challenge, we can become entrenched in routine, visiting the same places for entertainment and connection. But these are precisely the moments when we need new music, new stories, new artistic inspiration. Partnership allows us to bring something unexpected into the cultural space – bringing theater to Folklife, or Folklife to the theater.

The work NWFolklife is doing to embed folk in our region year-round is extraordinary. ACT is excited to create space for artists to reach new audiences – and we heartily invite you to come join us as new or returning participants and audiences for our upcoming season of great theater!

Seattle Participatory Arts Network (SPAN)

In November of 2024 faculty and students at the University of Washington collaborated with invited arts activists and local community arts organizations, including Union Cultural Center, Movimiento Afrolatino Seattle, Seattle Fandango Project, Path with Art, Creative Justice and the Rhapsody Project, to put on a conference titled, "Connecting Through Participatory Arts: Culture, Community and Collaboration." The four days of dancing, singing, good food and discussion focused on learning about diverse participatory arts practices, and the possibilities for collaboration between community arts movements and universities. It was the first concrete step in what is still a work in progress: the Seattle Participatory Arts Network (SPAN).

By participatory arts we mean cultural traditions in which all present are invited to express themselves in the ways they are able, and to feel alive and joyfully connected. The fact that many people today do not experience these kinds of gatherings is both a cause and a symptom of the loneliness epidemic that is fracturing our society. The good news is that we are seeing a growth in arts-based movements that promote engagement and collectivity. Such movements center on cultural practices that include fandango, taiko, hip hop, house ballroom, Balkan dancing, bomba, capoeira and more. Many of these practices have functioned as tools for survival and healing in communities under stress from migration, colonization, enslavement or other kinds of adversity. As such they are crucial sites for learning about how we can strengthen our communities through music and movement. Rooted in specific community histories and adapting to the current moment, these movements are building networks of collaboration across regional and national boundaries. SPAN seeks to support, connect and grow such efforts, and to find ways for institutions like universities to ally with participatory arts movements.

SPAN Guiding Principles:

- Cultivate connections between people and communities through participatory art.
- Encourage personal investment in collective art projects that welcome different kinds and levels of skill
- Respect the distinctive work being done in different communities, and help people "learn to arrive" in new cultural spaces
- Facilitate collaboration between community artists and organizations in the Seattle area (while also connecting more broadly)
- Build relationships of mutual benefit and co-creation between community arts groups and the university
- Promote participatory arts in education and encourage life-long engagement in art-making

For more information see the Connecting Through Participatory Arts conference website: seattleparticipatoryartsnetwork.my.canva.site/

CCWD

Empowering the Future of Culture Year-Round

What is CCWD? The Cultural and Creative Workforce Development Program (CCWD) is a year-round initiative that provides paid internships for young creatives (ages 16–26) from underrepresened communities. Supported by the City of Seattle's Office of Economic Development, the Office of Arts & Culture, and Climate Pledge, interns gain hands-on experience in event production, digital media, cultural organizing, and arts administration—all while working alongside mentors at partner organizations across the city.

Why It Matters: This program isn't just creating internships—it's launching careers. CCWD addresses inequities in the creative economy by providing access, mentorship, and real-world training to young people who have historically been left out of these opportunities.

And it's working. Over the last 5 years, 85 interns have completed the program, working with 30 creative and cultural organizations across Seattle. We now have a growing waitlist of host sites eager to mentor young talent—and more qualified applicants than we can currently fund.

The interest is there. The momentum is building. And we're ready to take this to the next level.

"Being a part of the CCWD program through Northwest Folklife, was one of the cornerstones of my career in the Creative Workforce. This program made it possible for me to realistically pursue my goals of community building & creative development. Folklife placed me @ Bluecone Studio's where I've been able to further learn and be involved after my internship. For anyone walking the same path as me- I encourage you to carry on & make friends here! Let's continue advocating for more spotlighting of the Creative Field!"

—Jac Smith, CCWD Alum,
Facilities Manager @ Blue Cone Studios

Where are they now: Northwest Folklife's Cultural & Creative Workforce Development (CCWD) program is opening doors for young creatives—helping them grow, connect, and take meaningful next steps in their creative careers. According to a multi-year analysis of program data, 100% of interns reported that the experience helped them develop professionally and build meaningful connections with mentors and industry professionals. Out of our 87 total interns, many have gone on to secure full- and part-time roles in the cultural and creative sector—including positions at organizations like CD Forum, Milli Agency, and Friends of Waterfront—or continued their education with clarity and direction.

The CCWD model doesn't just place interns in positions—it cultivates networks and opportunities that ripple beyond the internship itself. Interns leave the program with new skills, stronger portfolios, and access to a vibrant community of creatives committed to equity, mentorship, and mutual growth.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

Cultural & Creative Workforce Development Program (2024–2025)

26 INTERNS
Currently supported through long-term and high school placements

13 HOST SITES
Creative and cultural organizations across the city

100% PAID
Every intern receives an hourly wage or a stipend

91–100% LMI PARTICIPANTS
Most interns come from low-to-moderate income households

10+ BIPOC-LED PARTNERS
Mentorship by leaders from the communities we serve

8 HIGH SCHOOL INTERNS
Placed through a new partnership with Alan T. Sugiyama High School

30 PARTNERS HOSTING INTERNS INCLUDING:
NWFL, Velocity, LANGSTON, KEXP, Blue Cone Studios, PNB, and more

WHAT'S NEXT?

We're growing—and ready to support even more young creatives

Built with Intention

CCWD goes beyond job placements—every part of the program is designed to help interns succeed.

TRANSIT ACCESS
Free ORCA cards make sure interns can get to work, events, and meetings across the city.

TECH ACCESS
Each intern receives a laptop to support creative work, communication, and learning.

MENTORSHIP
One-on-one mentorships, career conversations, and peer-led site visits build skills and community.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Ongoing workshops, cohort events, and career-building opportunities are available to all interns and alumni, no matter their stage or path.

LET'S KEEP IT GROWING

CCWD is working—and the demand is growing. We have more brilliant young creatives ready to jump in, and more organizations eager to mentor them. What we need now is the support to meet the moment.

With your help, we can place more interns, support more partners, and invest in the next generation of cultural leaders.

- Learn more or make a gift at nwfolklife.org/programs/ccwdinternships
- Or stop by the Friends of Folklife VIP Lounge—we'd love to connect

TO LEARN MORE, SCAN HERE

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CCWD

INDIVIDUAL PROFILES

Camryn Miyashiro, CCWD Intern, Performer Experience and Special Programs

Camryn is a recent graduate from the University of Washington with a BA in Political Science and minors in Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies and Labor Studies. They are the bassist for a local queer punk band, Gender Envy. Camryn has a passion for grassroots organizing and mutual aid and is excited to work with Northwest Folklife to intertwine their drive for community building with their love of music.

Camryn programmed this year's Makers Space and Fiber Arts Tent. In addition, they serve on the programming team, contributing to artist programming for various venues, coordinating communications with artists, developing tech books, and providing general support. Alongside fellow intern Jenna, Camryn helped curate performances for the K-Prom Stage, Rotunda, Friends of Folklife, and the Queer Showcase at Vera. During the festival, you can find them assisting the Makers Space, performer check-in, and providing general performer support.

Jenna Merriam, CCWD Intern, Performer Experience and Special Programs

Jenna's love for the arts began with a creative, music-filled upbringing, inspiring her to volunteer at festivals and radio stations. After shifting her career from fashion to live music, she spent the past year interning with top event companies and The Crocodile through the Bumbershoot Workforce Development Program and additionally working at the Earshot Jazz Festival. Jenna is excited to expand her knowledge of festival programming and event logistics with NW Folklife, while continuing her work in various roles across the industry.

For Folklife 2025, Jenna is curating the fashion show and vendor marketplace for Threads of the People, while supporting the programming team with festival advancement, administrative projects, techbook creation for stage managers, and artist communication. She and fellow intern Camryn collaborated to program the K-Prom, Rotunda, and Friends of Folklife stages, as well as the Queer Showcase at Vera! At the festival, she will be supporting the Armory Court Stage, Performer Check-In, and providing other on-site assistance to artists and the programming team!

Alejandra Hillon, CCWD Alum '24, Performer Relations Coordinator

Alejandra graduated from the University of Washington in 2023 with a BA in ethnomusicology. She is an experienced and versatile keyboard/piano player. Alejandra enjoys sticking close to her Colombian American roots by playing and studying cumbia music. She also enjoys working behind the scenes in the live music industry, especially at local Seattle music festivals. Alejandra has first-hand experience with the power of live music to connect communities and hopes that her work can help share this with as many people as possible.

Alejandra handles all things related to performer comms: sending out communications, working with our web developers to improve our application form and database, and working with the interns to answer performer questions. She programmed the Jam Tent, and worked with community coordinators and the programs team to program Cornish Courtyard, the Friends of Folklife Stage, The Rhythm Tent, and the Rotunda. At the festival, she'll be providing support and answering questions from stage managers, performers, and the performer check-in team. If you watch the Latinx Dance Party on Friday night, you'll also notice her playing keys for The Cumbieros!

Emily Silks, CCWD Alum '24, Archivist for Northwest Folklife

Emily Silks (they/them) is a PhD Candidate and Graduate Instructor in Ethnomusicology at the University of Washington, currently serving as the Archivist at Northwest Folklife. Emily is committed to realizing the intersection of music archives, recording projects, and cultural arts sustainability through collaborative projects with local non-profits and artists in Seattle. Outside of their professional pursuits, Emily enjoys cycling throughout the Pacific Northwest and indulging in home-cooked meals.

I will be hosting a Listening Party based on curated materials from the NWFL archive at the KEXP Gathering Space on Friday May, 23rd from 4 - 6pm to kick off the festival. The rest of the time you'll find me at the Archive Listening Station Booth in the armory or conducting Artist Interviews around campus!

Bacchus Grenfell, CCWD Alum '20, Programs Coordinator

Bacchus's passion for visual arts and music began in childhood, tracing animations off a CRT screen and remixing cassette recordings into new compositions. Their current music blends distorted cassette loops with synth soundscapes, while their visual art has been showcased at venues like Blue Cone Studios, Cafe Red, and The Central Saloon. At Cafe Red, they founded Phonetic Aesthetic, a monthly art-music fusion event inviting community members to create and perform. Bacchus lives out their Folklife by bridging the gap between potential and established artists, believing in everyone's capacity—and need—for creative expression.

This year, Bacchus helped curate our SIFF cinema and classroom spaces through programing workshops, storytelling events, and our Humanities WA Speakers Series, and they served as the point person for our Community Coordinators to plan showcases of their own on various days and stages throughout the festival weekend - this year welcoming on new coordinators from Fremont Fridays, The Residency, and Martha's Vineyard. During the festival weekend, Bacchus will be overseeing the events and venues they helped to program, as well as performing in the Ambient Showcase starting at 8:10pm on Friday at Fisher Green.

Empowering the Future of Culture—*Come Be Part of It!*

Experience storytelling, art, and inspiration from the young voices building the future of our region's cultural landscape.

This year's Friends of Folklife Donor Lounge is more than a place to relax—it's a celebration of the next generation of cultural leaders. Hosted by NWFL's Creative Cultural Workforce Development (CCWD) program, the lounge offers an inside look at how young artists and cultural workers are shaping the future of our region. Chat with current and former CCWD interns, take part in interactive workshops, and hear powerful stories from emerging creatives. If you've ever participated in a CCWD program, we'd love to see you—stop by and say hello!

Join us for refreshments and conversation as you unwind and experience your support in action.

Daily Highlights | Activated 3–7pm

Friday, May 23
Professional Headshots by Zion Thomas (CCWD Intern)
Step in front of the lens and connect with CCWD's creative network.
Saturday, May 24
CCWD Artist Panel & Intern Walkaround: Hear from young cultural leaders and explore the festival through their eyes.
Sunday, May 25
Screenprinting: Create your own print and customize your festival swag.
Monday, May 26
Screenprinting Continues: Drop in for your last chance to print and personalize your NWFL swag!

In Memoriam

Kathi Ploeger

Kathi Ploeger, a stalwart of the Scandinavian music and dance community, died on February 15, 2025 after battling Cholangiocarcinoma for 1.5 years. She will be missed most acutely by the Scandinavians, but she was known in the Scottish, English, and Contra dance communities as well. Kathi supported Northwest Folklife enthusiastically for decades as a participant, teacher, performer, and significant donor.

Kathi was a woman of wide interests. She was detail oriented in all of those interests. Beloved teacher of Scandinavian dance, membership chair for Skandia Folkdance Society, registrar for Springdans Northwest, collector of drinking songs, archivist for the National Nordic Museum, banker, and tax professional. Her friends in all those diverse activities will remember the absolute trust they had in her meticulous execution of those activities.

With her husband Don Meyers, she loved to travel and immerse herself in the culture of whichever country she was in. She always felt like Memorial Day weekend was a chance to visit the world without leaving Seattle. So, as you wander the Folklife world the last weekend in May, lift a mug in remembrance.

Jesse Michael Haddad

Our friend Jesse passed away this year on March 30th. Jesse volunteered as one of our Welcome Booth attendants during our 2023 & 2024 festivals—many people who knew him remember him as a kindhearted, open-minded, compassionate individual, ever present around Seattle's nightlife and music scene.

Jesse worked as the Production Manager and doorman at the High Dive for many years, and most recently worked as a video jockey at various events, including Beyond Wonderland's Silent Disco. In his free time, he volunteered at the Seattle Area Feline Rescue, and adopted several cats to take on their hospice care from home. Jesse was always known for his love of cats and the ease by which he befriended and connected with them, and it was one of the many ways he expressed his ability to nurture and care for everyone and everything around him.

Maureen O'Neill

Northwest Folklife honors the passing of Maureen A. O'Neill who served on its board of directors for more than 15 years during this organization's first three decades. Her service included three terms as board president.Her career with Seattle Parks and Recreation spanned more than 30 years and many neighborhood projects at community centers throughout the city.

Each Folklife Festival she brought family to celebrate the cultural diversity presented across the Seattle Center Campus. During her tenure on the Northwest Folklife Board, she promoted the re-branding of this organization from The Northwest Regional Folklife Festival, a four-day weekend event, to Northwest Folklife, a year-round folk arts presenting organization. Let the 2025 Folklife weekend be another celebration of Maureen's spirit and vision.

Mahalo for Your Support

Len Adams
Luke Allgeyer
Charles Alpers
Lindsay Andersen
Karen Anderson
Robert Archer
Robert & Marianne Archey
Bob Atkinson
Julia Bacharach & Daniel Cory
Richard Bahl
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Victoria Bennett
Andrew Bereson
Barb Berry
Irving & Luann Bertram
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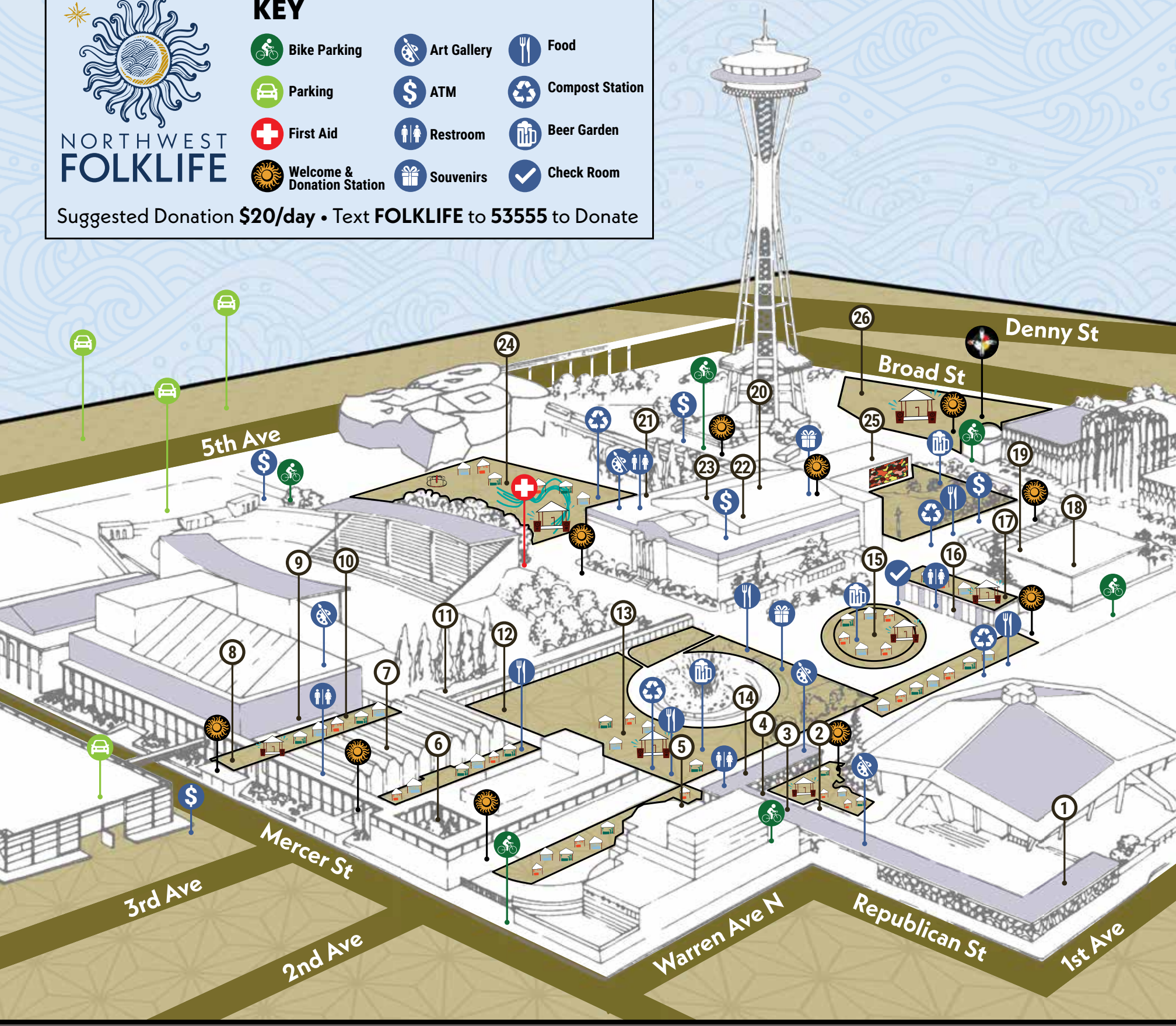

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2. Alki Court
3. Vera Project
4. SIFF Cinema & Classroom
5. The Rotunda Folklife Café
6. Cornish Courtyard
7. Exhibition Hall
8. K Prom Welcome Stage
9. McCaw Hall Window Gallery
10. Kuleana Corridor
11. Open-Air Dance Stage
12. JamtownLive Rhythm Tent
13. Fountain Lawn Pub & Jam Hub
14. A/NT Gallery
15. Fisher Green Global Roots Village & Lawn Pub
16. Fisher Pavilion/Warren's Roadhouse
17. Friends of Folklife Stage
18. Performer Registration & Hospitality
19. Eve Alvord Theatre
20. Armory Court Stage
21. Center Theatre
22. Armory 3rd Floor Gallery
23. Volunteer Check-In & Hospitality
24. Artist at Play Stage & Makers Space
25. Mural Amphitheatre
26. Unkitawa